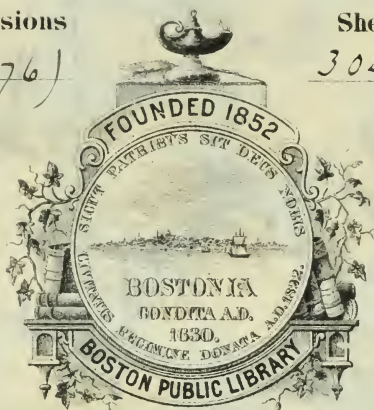


Accessions

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CHOWBOKIANA

OR

NOTES ABOUT THE

ANTIPODES AND THE ANTIPODEANS.

c

B.H
(30976)
Aug 22, 1892

So much nonsense has been written of late about the land of the MAORI by interested persons, as well as by those who know little or nothing about it, such numbers of people have left their homes and their friends to their utter ruin, attracted to its shores by false representations, that the writer ventures to offer these notes, in the hope they may contain scraps of information useful to those who OUGHT NOT to go there.

The Quixotic people who interest themselves in such trifles, as they are deemed by the mass of the Colonists, as well as by such persons as the author of one of the latest publications about N. Z., who is urgent for the speedy commencement "*of the necessary coming war of extermination of the Blacks,*" as he terms the Natives, may also gather some notion of the present state, and future prospects of the high-spirited aboriginal owners of the much-coveted lands of the North Island.

THOMAS A. SCOT.

BOMBAY, 1875.

THE PAKEHAS.

Sharp Necessity Mr. Darwin remarks, would alone induce any one to emigrate, and certainly except under such pressure, persons of refined tastes accustomed to the usages and comforts of civilized life will do well to be very cautious in exchanging the most simple home in the old, for one their imagination may picture in the 'New Britain of the South' as its denizens designate New Zealand.

The distinguished author of the *Origin of Species*, in his delightful narrative of the voyage of H. M. S. *Beagle* concludes his remarks upon the country by saying, "we are all glad to leave New Zealand, it is not a pleasant place, amongst the natives there is absent that charming simplicity which is found in Tahiti, and the greater part of the English are the very refuse of Society." This is severe, but it was written many years ago; the time that has elapsed since, has of course effected a very great change in the character of the European population. Hundreds of estimable families are settled in the various provinces; the plains of Canterbury are tilled by as fine a set of stalwart yeomen as are to be seen in any part of England; many of the proprietors of the large squatting runs, and agricultural estates are men of good birth and education, and a still larger proportion of the struggling smaller settlers are persons who have held commissions in Her Majesty's army and navy, graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, and others of good standing at home, who in an evil hour for themselves in many instances, have by the absurdly exaggerated accounts of the facilities for getting on published by interested people, been induced to give up their professions and employments, and come out to try and make money as sheep farmers or agriculturists in Maoriland.

Were Mr. Darwin to re-visit the Australasian Colonies he would probably regret having expressed his opinion so strongly respecting them, especially regarding these islands then almost a *terra incognita*. The middle one being absolutely so. He had seen but very little of the Northern one itself, the *Beagle* having only visited the

Bay of islands. Nothing was then known of its many attractions even to a scientific traveller. Had he wandered amidst the peculiar scenes of the Southern Cordillera, grand albeit stern in their wild loneliness, amongst the lofty snow-capped, glacier-robed mountains, seen the mighty rivers of ice descending through magnificent forests nearly to the sea, he would have rejoiced to gaze again upon pictures somewhat similar to those he so much admired in the straits of Magellan—a portion of the globe worth visiting, but which too one is glad to leave. Had he sailed between the imposing walls of Milford Sound, and the other picturesque fiords of the west coast of the Middle island, or ridden over the fair plains of the Northern which stretch for more than a hundred miles along between the sea-shore and the singularly symmetrical cone of Taranaki rising from its zone of woods. Still more had he, so ardent a student of the book of nature stood upon the Terraces of Roto-mahana, and examined the wonders of the Phlegræan fields between the Volcano of Tongoriro and the shores of the Bay of Plenty, opposite the great Solfatara of White island; the hot lakes and streams, geysers, &c. &c., so well described by Dr. Hochstetter, and the Honorable Mr. Meade, he would have considered that it is not a mistake to recommend the mere tourist to come across the ocean to visit New Zealand. On the whole, nevertheless, it must be admitted, that the impression he left them with, is that which most persons would still have to-day on quitting its somewhat sombre shores, those at all events who have seen more cheerful lands, and lived amongst more agreeable people,—it is emphatically not a pleasant country to reside in at present.

In the first place, although that accomplished voyager might desire to modify somewhat his sweeping condemnation of its inhabitants, still as, “*cælum non animam mutant qui trans mare currunt,*” most educated people would probably think on their arrival, who had come across America, visited Virginia, and some of the other States, that it would have been better to have settled there, even in so far as having pleasant neighbours, and civil servants is concerned. Unless circumstances chance to enable one to live in certain very limited localities, most parts of New Zealand are anything but agreeable to make a home in.

Manner, it has been observed, “gets regularly worse as you go from the East to the West, it is best in Asia, not so good in Europe, and altogether bad in the western States of America, but nowhere is

it thought less of, than in a rough English Colony." The writer in the Contemporary Review must have travelled westward still from California, and had New Zealand in remembrance, for Manner has there surely reached the culminating point of badness, even amongst remote Anglo-Saxon communities. In another generation the arrangement of the cervical vertebræ will be altered in the native-born whites of the Colony, where the ordinary perpendicular inclination of the head, is changed for a peculiar sideways nod. Roughness and want of consideration are especially noticeable amongst the people to whom one would have imagined incivility to be at least of "little use." The stranger coming to the seat of Government from the western shores of that land where shoes are imperfectly polished, is rather taken aback by the seemingly studied rudeness of the employees of different kinds, clerks in public offices, banks and other institutions, as well as of the shop-men, innkeepers, cabmen or drivers of "traps" as they term their hideous street vehicles in Wellington, and other places in these islands, where shoes for the most part are not polished at all. There appears to be much virtue in the use of the production of Day and Martin.

In his observations upon New Zealand, a French gentleman remarks "l'insolence y'est a la mode, comme la familiarite l'est en Amerique." In the Canterbury Province things are somewhat better than elsewhere; the influence not being quite lost of the earlier settlers who were for the most part men of the same class as the majority of those who took up the pastoral regions of Australia, such as New England, and other districts of New South Wales, and the southern portions of what is now Queensland, whom Colonel Mundy in his "Antipodes" represents as being of a very different stamp from those who now by force of wealth gained in many instances at the expense of their former masters, take the lead in these provinces as well as in New Zealand, especially in its towns, where the money-mongering and storekeeping class have it all their own way.

In the Colonial Capitals the tone of Society for the time being depends much upon the example set by the occupants of their respective vice-regal mansions, and upon their being persons able from their own social position and personal qualities to put and keep people in their proper places. Lord Lytton, when Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed a letter to a newly-appointed Governor somewhat in the style of Lord Chesterfield's to his son.

He impressed upon him very properly, "that the more he treated "people as gentlemen, the more they would behave as such, that "merely sharp and clever Governors may be weak and detested, "and that the Queen's Representative should not show himself "huffy." New Zealand society is not likely to be improved in its tone by a huffy Governor, who ignores the first instruction altogether.

From the isolation of the different centres, the presence of a Governor and his family at Wellington confers little advantage upon the Colonists generally, few persons residing there except Government officials, traders of for the most part of very inferior class, money-mongers, Christian and Israelitish. The office might very well be dispensed with altogether, the protection of Imperial interests being entrusted to a Commission, of which the Commodore on the station, the President of the Council, and the Judges might be ex-officio members. In the Australian Capitals the case is somewhat different, and although the day is much to be desired when there may be established "the Dominion of Australia" under a Governor-General, still as to these large cities, the settlers come from all parts of the country, a gentleman in the position of Governor can do much good, and still greater benefit of course accrues from the presence of a lady as the recognized head of society, who has been accustomed to the amenities of high-toned society at home.

New South Wales had been very fortunate in this respect for many years, as Queensland is at present, and the influence of the ladies who had occupied that position had, as remarked in an able work on the Colonies published in 1860, much to do with making the social life in Sydney so agreeable and refined as it was formerly. The author of *L'Asie et L'Océanie* having visited all the principal cities of Asia and America as well as of Europe, says:—"Si on me "demandait quelle est la ville ou je me suis trouvé le plus heureux, "je répondrait, a moins que le souvenir de Tomsk ne l'emportât, "Sydney. Melbourne est peuplé de demagogues, de republicaines "implacables d'aventuriers enrichis, on l'égalité est plus parfaite, "et moins supportables qu' a New York, parce que la, e'est accep- "tée par tout le monde. Melbourne quoique vouée au commerce, "et représentant le Londres de l'hémisphère Australe, comme "Sydney est la Paris Car si Melbourne rappelle les villes "de l'Amérique jamais ville ne fut plus essentiellement Anglaise

“ que Sydney—C’est une ville vieille déjà, mûre, raffinée dans ses
 “ goûts, pacifique, et gracieuse, littéraire et artistique C’est
 “ la gaieté de ses habitants, la propreté de ses rues, la pureté de
 “ son ciel, les amusements et surtout ses promenades et ses en-
 “ viron rien n’étant à comparer avec les jardins de
 “ Sydney, les mieux situés les mieux ombragés, et les mieux tenus
 “ du monde.”

It may be disagreeable for the New Zealanders to have equally severe remarks made regarding their social characteristics still, as were published twenty years previously by Colonel Mundy, Admiral FitzRoy and Mr. Darwin, and by one who had seen so much of the world, and its most remote cities, but they are unfortunately too well deserved. Speaking of the manners and bad conduct of the people in the New Zealand towns the same traveller says indignantly—“ Je déclare n’avoir jamais rien vu de semblable, et
 “ il faut que les Maories aient de bien solides qualités naturelles, ou le
 “ volonté bien forte pour ne suivre l’exemple de ceux qui devraient
 “ en tout leur servir de modèles. . . . Je dois même temps ajouter que
 “ je n’ai toujours trouvé l’honnêteté chez les Colons de Nouvelle
 “ Zélande ; ainsi à Nelson je fus deux fois dupé le même jour
 “ Voilà n’en déplaise aux colons ce qu’un Maori ne ferait pas. . . . A
 “ Wellington les blancs savent parfaitement s’approprier, &c. &c.,”
 but this is enough from the pen of a traveller who had sojourned amongst the inhabitants of the Steppes of Tartary, of China, and the towns of the wild western States in the Gold fever times. Even in the Colony itself the cupidity and dishonesty of “the huckstering denizens” of Wellington, Auckland and other towns, as Colonel Mundy calls them, is notorious. Nor does the country itself appear to offer much attraction to those who see much of the world as sailors do, and neither Wellington nor its inhabitants please visitors more to-day than they did at the time the authors quoted were there. A late paper copies a paragraph from the *Standard’s* correspondent on board the Scientific Expedition ship *Challenger* now in the Pacific. On leaving the harbour of that place, Port Nicholson, he expresses himself much in the same words as Mr. Darwin did. “ *It was with but little regret we left the shores of New Zealand, it being at this time of the year, mid-winter, a bleak stormy, inhospitable place, void of amusements, and the residents showing but little of that hospitality and kindness we had so recently experienced in Sydney.*”

Nothing strikes a stranger more than to see in that large Australian Capital, so great a sea-port, the crowds of orderly well-dressed people on Sundays, or the holidays in which they so often indulge. No squalor or wretchedness mar the scene, no drunkenness or rioting is seen in the streets, so very different from what meets the eye in the towns of New Zealand, where the vice which is ruining the aborigines is so prevalent, and its usual accompaniment of foul language disturbs the passer-by as in Wapping or Bristol wharves. Familiarity no doubt prevents the habit from being regarded at the Antipodean islands with such aversion as it is now-a-days amongst respectable people in Great Britain as well as amongst continental nations, and it is evidently looked upon there with the same leniency it was a generation or two ago in the mother country, when men still held with the good cheer-loving old Monk, that "qui bene bibit, bene dormit, qui bene dormit non peccat, qui non peccat, salvatus erit.

"I don't know why people swear so hard in some parts of California, says an amusing American writer, I have heard men relate the most trivial incidents with such a torrent of imprecations that I looked with amazement to see what there was in the matter to provoke them so unreasonably, or arouse their resentment to such a pitch of ferocity; the other day one of the stage-drivers boasting of a new whip-handle which a friend had presented to him, cursed it in a manner so shocking, as the best piece of hickory he had ever seen, that I positively was afraid he would swear the hat of his head." The abominable habit is prevalent enough in all the colonies, but in no Australian or American city are respectable people liable to be so shocked as in the streets of the towns and villages of New Zealand, in the smaller ones more particularly, where the young men and boys shout across to each other in the most disgusting manner,—The rising generation of "mean whites" in both islands, but especially in the northern one are fearfully profane, and most offensive in their conversation; and the astounding profligacy of the first settlers so bitterly commented upon by the writers of the day alluded to, as actually astonishing the Maoris, has left its mark on the manners and habits of their descendants in the settlements in Cook's straits, and to the north.

There is one, however, Taranaki which had a more innocent youth than the others. It has of course become much changed for the worse since the war, which so completely desolated it, that measures

had to be adopted by the Government as expressed in the *Gazette*, "for the permanent re-instatement of the settlement of Taranaki and its inhabitants." Nevertheless it appears still to hold a high position among the Provinces at the present day, taking absence of crime as the criterion. It was found to be unnecessary for a Chief Justice to risk his life time after time in landing through the surf, which breaks with great violence very frequently upon its shores of glittering but valueless titaniferous iron sand, even for the pleasure of receiving his white gloves, so Sir George Arney has ceased to hold a court of assize there. Originally settled by a respectable class of emigrants from the fair vales of Devonshire principally, the little Colony with its village capital of New Plymouth was planted in all completeness by people who came direct from home, and who were for a long time totally isolated from the other settlements, a circumstance that more than compensated for the primitive simplicity, and old-fashioned customs and habits, as well as ignorance, it must be admitted, in which the young people for the most part grew up to be men and women. The few natives then living in their immediate neighbourhood had hitherto been innocent of much intercourse with "Pakehas," *i. e.*, strangers; of a foreign race,—although in the first ships there came a few persons of education, and good standing at home the majority of the emigrants were men of the humblest origin, but were selected with care by the promoters of the settlement as honest hard-working labourers: there was no admixture of the bad class of "low whites" amongst its population so prominent in other parts of the North Island. Hemmed in by their mountain and dense pathless forests at the back, by the harbourless ocean in front, and by powerful tribes of warlike natives to the North and South, when disturbances arose, the plains around the base of Mount Egmont were the principal battle-fields, and there was nothing to tempt the "huckstering traders, grog-sellers, and loafers" whom Admiral FitzRoy complains of so much, when he administered the affairs of the Colony, to go to Taranaki, to try and make money out of the shrewd west-countrymen. The day will come ere long when this portion of the island will be one of the most flourishing, as well as the most attractive. But when that day does come, the old settler when complimented upon the honorable reputation of the little State and its capital in years past, will say with a sigh, "nous avous changé tout celá," and will look back with regret to the times when the Maoris held possession, as they still do to-day, of the beautiful plains from Waiongongoro to

Urenui, and who can wonder at their passionate attachment to the fair land of their ancestors and at their trying to keep possession of it ?

Where is the coward who would not dare
To fight for such a land ?

It will scarcely be deemed a compensation to have got rid of the incubus of the Provincial Government, as no doubt they will do ere long, with its ridiculous local parliament, speaker, executive ministers, &c. Unfortunately for the prospect of a pleasant state of things socially, when this coast becomes peopled unless there should be a large influx of settlers of a better class, to counteract their influence, a very objectionable element is being at present introduced. At the extremity of the Plain, about a hundred and twenty miles from New Plymouth, is situated the town of Whanganui, an offshoot from Wellington, the centre of a district already becoming populous and rich, but its population principally, as might be expected, is of a class, to whom were our authors to re-visit New Zealand, they would apply the harshest epithets bestowed by them upon the denizens of the parent settlement of Wellington. It is indeed a matter for surprise, that surrounded by such influences and examples, one now and then meets with persons born and brought up in these places whose manners and tone of thought would attract anywhere in the world, but they are '*rari nantes in gurgite vasto.*'

The task of regulating society and the entrée to Government House becomes doubtless daily a more difficult and disagreeable one in the Colonies, where the ultra democratic institutions have broken down all the barriers, and so much territorial and political influence has fallen into the hands of the wealthy lower classes, who pride themselves on their money, and despise all claims of education and good manners. It has been well said that to put the multitude at the top and the few at the bottom, is a radical inversion of the pyramid of society, which must inevitably tend to its downfall accordingly. A lower class comes to fill the senatorial benches at each successive election, few of the better educated and more qualified settlers now caring to enter the lists ; their political ostracism will soon be as complete in New Zealand as in the United States of America where, at all events, a man requires to have some talent, to gain a seat in the House of Representatives. The natural consequence is, that all the public offices from the highest to the lowest are gradually filled up by men of worse stamp than formerly. The unscrupulous gamb-

ler, and sharp police office attorney may be found occupying the most important positions, and the judicial bench itself as well as the magisterial is deliberately and with "malice aforethought" degraded. The effects of "Koomposh" or "hollow Bosh" as Lord Lytton terms the "government of the many, *i. e.*, the ascendancy of the most ignorant and hollow," are indeed thoroughly exemplified in New Zealand and will come to be more severely felt yet.

In the account of the voyage of the Austrian Frigate *Novara*, reasons are given for what the writer calls "the high tone of Society in Sydney spoken also of in such flattering terms by the author of *L'Asie et L'Océanie*. The Marquis de Beauvoir, whose account of his voyage round the world with the Princes of the House of Orleans was published in 1870, speaks of it still in much the same eulogistic manner. He says, "Melbourne was the city of gold, of democracy, and of important business; Hobarton was a hospitable country town. Sydney with all the stamp of the English gentleman upon it, with the agreeable warm-heartedness of the Creolle, with a picturesqueness born of a tropical sky, and of flowers and fruit whose like is not to be found in nature. Sydney is the town of high life, full of movement, of aristocratic society in the enjoyment of wealth and of all the charms of the gay world."

How long it will continue to merit some of these encomiums is questionable. The danger in bridging over the former impassable gulph between the two sections of society was greater in that place than elsewhere. Knighthoods and other distinctions have been conferred in the Colonies lately so lavishly and with so little regard to the merits of the recipients, that they go for nothing. So it does not much matter who is added to the roll; people when they hear of a new one being gazetted merely ask, how much has he paid? Who has got the *douceur* this time? But when the Australians heard that a hereditary title had been conferred upon a wealthy spirit-dealer of Sydney—an honor they would have been pleased to have seen bestowed upon the representative of the respectable family to whom the Colony owed its start on the road of prosperity and progress, or upon its foremost legislator, the bold and eloquent tribune of the people—they were not a little indignant. They felt that a blow had been struck which at once destroyed the hitherto well-ordered system of things in that place, nor was its weight softened when a similar distinction was again given to another citizen, who of course followed his compeer, and deserted the country for England, where their titles

might give them a position not likely to be conceded by their fellow-colonists.

The New Zealand Capital never enjoyed any great repute, but its character such as it was, has little chance of being elevated under any of the influences now prevailing. The chief power in the Colony is vested in, or rather usurped by an individual who may be "good at all things," but is certainly "better at a bet." People inveigh against him and his proceedings, caricatures such as this appear in the shop-windows, but still Julius Vogel goes on, annihilates by one means or another all opposition in the venal house of representatives, controuls the Press by being a shareholder or Director in the various companies he gets floated to buy up the principal newspapers, builds a ministerial mansion, gives great entertainments, doubles his own salary, quadruples his own travelling allowances, takes trips to Europe and the adjacent colonies, with his family and private secretary, travelling *au prince* at the expense of the community, and will continue to do so and to act as dictator so long as the power of borrowing remains.

The Colonists would do well to ask that the decoration he is so ambitious of obtaining which has been refused by the leader of the opposition, and one or two other gentlemen, prominent persons in New Zealand, should be conferred upon him at once; he affixes the cabalistic letters C. M. G. already to his name, by all means let him be knighted; the order which claims the insulted angels St. Michael and St. George for its patrons is a grotesque enough travestie already, and is more ridiculous even than the once valued Star of India, although nothing can well exceed the absurdity altogether on the part of the advisers of Royalty in bestowing the honor of knighthood which is strictly a Christian institution on Jew, and Paynim, money-dealers too of all callings the most antipathetic to that of the true knight—

Sir Moses, Sir Aaron, Sir Jam-Ram-a-jee,
Two stock-broking Jews, and a shroffing Parsee
Have girt on the armour of old Chivalrie,
And instead of the Red Cross have hoisted Bell's Three.

It would be a cheap mode for the unfortunate settlers of New Zealand before the day comes when every man will have to go to the country town to be taxed for his wife perhaps as well as his herds and all things he may possess, to get rid the same time of this *ipse lectus*, "a se," dictator by pensioning him off with his full salary for life, the

amount at least appertaining to the office before he contrived to get it increased, and much better than allowing things to go on as at present, going from bad to worse, which they are sure to do, until an opportunity is afforded him of ousting the present Agent General from his position, and appointing himself to go to England in his place. The management of affairs being vested in the hands of prudent men, the universal corruption might be checked, and the calamities be averted, which must inevitably come upon the Colony when its credit is exhausted. When the borrowed millions are all spent. When badly constructed Railroads, constantly being damaged by floods unguarded against, and by landslips, with other uncompleted, and in many cases utterly useless works commenced to buy a vote, are all that remain to them for the million sterling of interest alone that the New Zealanders have to pay annually—and they find besides that the best of the labourers they have brought across the seas at such cost, are leaving their shores for those of Australia.

Under such a Ruler it is not to be wondered at, that the whole tone of New Zealand Society has become tinged with the ‘spirit of the till,’ and that all sorts of roguery and chicanery flourish—the most objectionable individuals coming up amidst the scum to the top. The looker-on although disgusted, cannot help being amused in some measure by what he sees. He watches with curiosity the canny Scotch writers (not writers to the signet) and other noisy members who seated in the front ranks of the opposition are to be seen night after night in the assembly chamber, foaming with indignation as they denounce the “apalling corruption,” &c., &c., till he sees them at last disappear from their places, and presenting themselves to the astonished colonists as Ministers of Justice, Police Magistrates with comfortable salaries for life, or even seated on the bench, arrayed in judicial robes. He witnesses the manufacture of a Bank into a powerful political engine, “the Ring,” *i. e.*, the Directors thereof, flourishing like green bay-trees, as did the Auckland band of conspirators who by cunningly depreciating the shares of a gold mine, after its wealth had become known to them as directors, were able to secure the whole of the shares for a song to the ruin of many miserable widows and orphans, and go home, and present themselves and their wives and daughters to Her Gracious Majesty as specimens of the noble-minded founders of the ‘Britain of the South,’ and be made C. M. G.’s.

Nowhere does success justify the means seemingly in public opinion as it does in New Zealand. In no community, not in Georgia or

Alabama would things be tolerated that are done there with impunity under the present administration. If in one of these American States, a chief official fond of "taking miss," lost a thousand pounds or two at loo in the evening, he would scarcely venture to ask the hard-working farmer to pay his losses, as the meek struggling settlers in New Zealand are called upon to do, and submit to without a murmur, knowing that it is of no use murmuring. They are no longer represented in Parliament, one man after another is sent up pledged to endeavour to redress wrongs but in vain. It would do just as well to lay all the papers on the table the first day of the meeting of Parliament, and pass them in globo, pay the independent members their guinea and a half a day for the usual 100 or 150 days, and let them go back to their stores, their gin-shops and farms. There is no opposition now—its quondam leaders sit hopeless and disgusted—their followers are all bought, or an under-offer, excepting a few public-spirited gentlemen; a very small band indeed, who finding it utterly vain to attempt to make a stand, one by one retire from public life in despair.

Although better and of course more under the control of the law and police, than when Mr. Darwin visited New Zealand, much cannot be said it may be gathered, in favor of the European population generally. North of Cook's Straits it may roughly, in miner's language be described, as composed of a sub-stratum of escaped convicts and run-a-way sailors, upon which came to be super-imposed a layer of mean Jews and other dealers, with here and there like the rolled and worn pebbles of white quartz in a dark dingy conglomerate, and causing one equally to speculate upon the strange circumstances that swept them there, are a few persons from the better classes of English society, polished in manner and of good character and standing,—above all, is now being deposited a heterogeneous drift from the sea-port towns, the work-houses, and reformatories of the mother country.

PART II.

THE MAORI

AND

ANECDOTES OF THE WAR.

Mr. Darwin was, as any one would still be who came from the fair islands of Polynesia, inhabited as many of them are, by the most amiable, and until lately the happiest people upon earth, unfavorably impressed with the Aboriginal as well as with the Pakeha inhabitants of New Zealand. Time has not softened the Maori, or made him a more agreeable companion speaking generally, than he was at the time of the "Beagle's" visit, although he may not be so ready to eat you. He has 'rubbed intellects' with the Europeans, and finds that there is no such great difference between them, as to cause him to entertain any great respect for the Pakeha. The attitude of the natives in later years is not to be wondered at, when the history of our intercourse with them is considered, the testimony of all contemporary writers, corroborates Mr. Darwin's statement that like the unfortunate islanders of the Pacific generally, the Maoris at Auckland and other places came first into contact with the very lowest class of Europeans, the very refuse of Society—the worst sort of settlers, fellows whose only occupations were those of publicans and special sinners, who lived a half-savage life, or rather as the author of that capital book 'Old New Zealand' says, a savage and a half-life, being infinitely worse and more brutal in their conduct than the natives, whose fierce passions they excited against each other, and whom they taught every imaginable vice. Indeed, as stated by Colonel Mundy, the drunkenness and reckless debauchery of the Pakehas actually astonished the Maoris. "I fancy if ever there was an earthly Pandemonium, it existed at the Cook's Straits whaling establishments at that time, where there was a fortuitous aggregation of the wildest elements of society, nothing was wanted but to graft upon it a convict penal settlement, from this New Zealand was happily saved by the character for ferocity and treachery attributed to the natives."

At one time it might have been hoped that the influence of the Missionaries and of such a man as Bishop Selwyn might have overcome the opposition of the bad whites, which began early. In 1839 Captain FitzRoy (afterwards Admiral and Governor of the Colony)

observes, "embarrassments of many kinds are arising, one jealousy of that influence which has enabled those who are jealous, to approach the spot where they now stand, and oppose the Missionary as he exerts himself to suppress licentiousness and the use of ardent spirits, whilst assisting their early settlement the Missionaries were the best friends of those adventurers who sought a livelihood amongst the islands of the Pacific, in New Zealand especially, but when once established, ingratitude and utter want of reflection became too prevalent," his companion at the time Mr. Darwin, says: 'It is strange, but I have heard these worthy men say that the only protection which they need, and on which they rely is from the Native Chiefs against the Englishmen.' It is very much the fashion in the Colonies as elsewhere to sneer at and run down Missionaries in general, as the author of the chapter on the subject in "South Sea Bubbles" and other frothy writers do, but those only can be guilty of this folly, who are totally ignorant of what they have accomplished, and have only seen the class of men who come to places when the days of danger are past, trading Missionaries "teaching what Jesus did but not doing as he did," as Mr. Wallace in his "Malay Archipelago" says, after eulogising the Jesuits in the East, "who do their work thoroughly as of old, and have much to be proud of." Mr. Wallace's friend and fellow-traveller in other regions Mr. Bates, in his charming book on the Amazon River remarks, "the Jesuits were successful in teaching the pure and elevated Christian morality to the simple natives of Brazil. In 1759 the white colonists finally prevailed, the Jesuits were forced to leave the country, and the fifty-one happy villages went to ruin, since then the aboriginal race has gone on decreasing in numbers . . . Is not a similar state of things now exhibited in New Zealand between the Maoris and the English Colonists?"

The testimony of such distinguished men to the present and past labours of the Jesuits, will be deemed by most persons more deserving of credence than the flippant observations of "the Earl," or "the Doctor" regarding them. But the writer was no doubt unaware of what they are doing still in the East, and had forgotten or never heard of the great "Reductions" as they were termed, in South America, alluding to which Mr. Herman Merivale observes, the Society derived no temporal wealth or power from the expenditure of its best and noblest spirits in the secluded pursuits of the American Missions, and on the whole whatever were the faults of the system we shall hardly refuse to repeat the words of Southey "there never

was a more absolute despotism : but there never existed any other Society in which the welfare of the subjects temporal and eternal, has been the sole object of Government." Even if we do not go so far as to say with Raynal "that perhaps never was so much good done to mankind with so little admixture of evil." The author of "South Sea Bubbles," a name well chosen—ventures to say "I will back half a dozen Jesuits or Marists going the round of Polynesia to do more to demoralize the people, and shake what little hold Christianity has upon them than five hundred dissolute sailors—if you want real mischief done, place your cause in the hands of a few earnest and well-meaning men." If the latter part of the sentence refers as it seems from other observations to do, to Bishop Selwyn and the lamented Bishop Patteson, those who have heard even but a little about the good these noble men did in the Pacific will read it with just indignation. The writer might study with advantage Father Newman's discourse upon 'Personal influence the means of propagating the truth. Mr. Darwin, Admiral Erskine and the authors of the respective cruises of H. M. S. *Fawn* and H.M.S. *Curacoa* render a well deserved tribute of admiration of their character, and testimony to the good results of the efforts of the many brave men of all sects, who without the least thought for themselves, or the slightest chance of personal advantage have gone one after another, sometimes to the very same place, amongst the savages of Papuan race in the South Seas, to fall unheard of; but who paved the way at last for money-seeking adventures to follow unfortunately in their steps to many of these islands. There is no doubt that the Trading Missionaries soon became numerous, and made their deteriorating influence felt in New Zealand. As early as 1843, Dr. Dieffenbach gives the names of ten of these people who had acquired about a hundred thousand acres, at about sixpence an acre, lands worth now from ten pounds even to twenty pounds. One family in particular is conspicuous in the list which has tarnished by their rapacity and land-sharking, a name that once stood high amongst the natives as well as Europeans. This traveller contrasts the conduct of these men with that of the Roman Catholic priests "whose humble and disinterested manner of living, and the superior education which they have generally received, have procured them many friends both amongst Europeans and Maoris, and many converts." To the other coarse beings entirely attached to material interests, the future of the Maoris was a matter of total indifference "and they made no attempt to confront the carriers of demoraliza-

tion, whom if they had been in earnest themselves, or if the country had been in earnest, care might at least have been taken to see that the flagrant offences of these corrupters met with the punishment they deserved." All they thought about was to secure good estates for themselves, and make as much as possible out of those lands under their control, set apart for the benefit of the people they were supposed to be busy instructing. The old Spaniards in their thirst for gold did not injure the aborigines of Mexico and Peru very much more than the Anglo-Saxon colonists of the 19th century have the Maoris, in their desire to gain possession of their ancestral lands. It is not enough for them that in accordance with "the mysterious agency at work by which wherever the white man has trod, death seems to pursue the aboriginal," they could not wait for their extirpation taking place in time, but hastened it by wars, and ardent spirits. There will be no remains seen by after-generations left by the colonists of New Zealand such as in the wildest deserts of Arizona and Sonora, strike the traveller with astonishment, testifying to the wonderful influence once acquired by the Jesuit Missionaries, and success if not in proselytising, at all events in civilizing the American Indians which they wisely set about always in the first place.

The consequence of the torrent of profligacy that flowed into New Zealand was that "the Anglo-Saxon communities established amongst the natives of the North island and on the shores of Cook's Straits advanced from a bad infancy to a worse maturity. The sharp practises of the white land-sharks enlightened the Maoris also as to the true value of their lands, and when once awake to their own interests they were not the men to doze again,—they not only stood out for higher prices in present and future dealings, but repudiated bye-gone bargains on the plea that they had been over-reached and bamboozled, which undoubtedly was the case. The spirit of the till that so powerfully rules the actions of the greater part of the colonists is rapidly impressing itself on the native character and dealings." Twenty years or so, have passed since the above was written, and have as Colonel Mundy prognosticated, developed the once chivalrous, and industrious, though fierce Maori chieftain into a greedy trader, or idle dissipated spendthrift. He feels now that money is power, and although his personal Māna*—(some

* It conveys the signification of independence and freedom as well as sovereignty they speak of a road being made through the island as destroying its "Mana."

thing more than feudal influence) is waning, the Government having undermined it in a treacherous way, he is content to exchange the command of men into a good revenue, in some cases many thousands a year, which he generally manages to squander by reckless extravagance and intemperance. He feels that so long as he has plenty of money, Pakehas instead of Maoris are his slaves, and comes to believe from all he sees in the conduct of the white men publicly and privately, that to gain the "Ickipenny" is the chief end of man. Being told that our wise and good men are made magistrates, and that a J. P. is an important Rangatira, what must the native Chief think of our social arrangements when he goes to Wellington the seat of Government, and sees a magistrate leave the Bench, and presently beholds him mounted on his rostrum the top of a cart shrieking and gesticulating, as he seeks to gain a bid of another ickipenny-six pence—for some old broken-down Maori horse, which the justice-dispensing auctioneer at last knocks down for five and twenty shillings—he sees many of the clergymen now-a-days much more intent upon the prosperity of their sheep and cattle than anything else. In the townships buying and selling, cheating and scheming surround him, and he knows enough to understand the rogueries of the low class of traders, grog-sellers, and storekeepers; whilst in the country he seldom comes in contact with any of the few resident gentlemen, and still more seldom with any of the fewer ladies who might give him a better idea of the Rangatiras of foreign race; sometimes the Maoris happen to do so, and express their astonishment at the great difference betwixt the two classes of Pakehas and ask why it is so much more marked than amongst themselves. Personal courage was the birthright of the native Rangatira or gentleman. He finds that is by no means a requisite quality to a man who comes to rule over his fellows amongst the Pakehas. He sees two notable instances of this in the vis-a-vis superintendents of the two Provinces of Taranaki and Hawke bay. The latter a minister of the Crown, rapidly appropriating to himself the territories of the Ahuriri Chiefs, and yet he knows well, how he was the first to turn and ride for safety, when danger threatened the inhabitants of the plains around Napier and how the other Provincial ruler was found the sole representative of the men of Taranaki, amongst the women and children in the fort when the Maori bullets were flying about outside that settlement, and is puzzled what to make of the Europeans especially when he considers the poor position of those who fought most bravely and well

against him in defence of their homes. Bishop Selwyn and Bishop Abraham have gone, the name of the former acts like a talisman still, every native being proud to tell you he knew him. In the Government Mr. Weld's successors have been for the most part men without any manner at all, and there is nothing to raise the Pakeha in the estimation of the proud old Chiefs as men, although they may admire their shrewdness, and capacity in dealing.

As the Secretaries and Heads of departments at Washington, did to the old Red Indian Chief who came to visit General Grant, so do the colonial ministers appear vulgar to the Maori. 'An impressive manner had been a tradition in the societies in which he lived, being of great use in such societies.' To interrupt the grave and proud Chief in his speech, even when he wasted time in recounting his honors and those of his forefathers, more distant like Kinglake's Pacha's than the ends of the earth, or when he mounted into the most impassioned and fiercest but poetical phases of Maori oratory would have been an impertinence that might have cost the perpetuator his life. One can imagine therefore the astonishment of the swarthy senators, who represent the Native Race in the general Assembly at Wellington, and who are amongst the most dignified and decorous of its members, at the scenes which sometimes take place there, presided over as its sittings are by a person very different from the two previous speakers, who filled the chair it is said, with dignity and power, and were free from that superlatively ceremonious manner which Thackeray characterises as the "acme of bad breeding." He will not be elected to the office again, it is confidently asserted, his short tenure has been sufficient however to secure the coveted knighthood. The President of the Upper House is not a Knight, being a gentleman of established position he did not need the supposed honor. The chair being so filled, it is not a matter for surprise that the proceedings of the House which had hitherto contrasted favorably with most colonial parliaments should frequently now be of the character they are. Last session, one of the Maori members worn out by the conduct of a rude obstructive talker, rose and making his bow to the speaker gravely asked through his interpreter (each Maori member sits with one besides him) to be permitted to take the offensive individual out on his shoulders, and lock him up till the sitting was over—a most excellent addition to parliamentary practice this would be indeed. New Zealanders may be inclined to take credit to themselves, from the fact of the Maoris

having seats in the legislature, and point to the circumstance that one is even a Minister of the Crown, as an evidence of the noble consideration shewn to the native race. But with the mass of the colonists any concession to them was from sheer necessity not from choice. Man for man the Maori was found to be the equal of the Pakeha. He could not take his lands by force, so is accomplishing this the one paramount object of the Government stealthily by degrees, whilst yielding after the nominal conquest of great part of the island in many things, that are the very first in other countries which would have been most properly insisted upon. The Maori evidently agreeing with the expression of the old cynic, that the man who speaks two languages is a rascal, makes the European learn his. The documents and gazettes must be printed in his own tongue if he is to pay any attention to them. He must be free to go and come where he thinks proper, but the Pakeha must keep on his own side of the Pale, on pain of heavy penalty or death. A Government emissary wishing to have audience of some fierce chief of the old school is met with a cartel such as the following, which was lately put into the hands of a Commissioner attempting to enter a district closed to Europeans. "Go you oh my letter to the Governor, or to whoever you may be, if you are the Governor you must go back, if you are a Magistrate you must go back, if you are a postman from the Governor you must go back, or if you persist in coming here you shall pay a hundred pounds penalty. Verily to an Anglo-Indian the insults put up with are quite incomprehensible, and humiliating to a degree that no ultimate success appears to justify a Queen's officer being expected to submit to. The credit of having granted, or proposed even the admission of the natives to a say in the management of affairs will no doubt be claimed by the Vogel-McLean Ministry, as well as of having thought of following the example of neighbouring Colonies in making Railroads, and introducing Emigrants. But they have not even this item to set against the evils attending the system pursued. In Judge Therry's *Reminiscences of Australia* published in 1863, after alluding to the repeal of part of the treaty of Waitangi, whereby the right to possess and sell their lands is recognized, he goes on to say "indeed there has been "a recent proposal to admit the Native chiefs into the administration of the Government, and the Maori Nobility into the Legislative Council, and further to concede to the Native Race a fair representation in the house of Assembly." There is not indeed a single important feature introduced by the present Government into their

programme which is not borrowed from the proposal of previous Ministers, or had not been urged upon their consideration for years in the public press, but Mr. Vogel has the tact to use other people's brains. No doubt his method of manipulating men and money, are to a certain extent original, and strike strangers with as great astonishment that they should be tolerated, as it probably did the generality of New Zealanders to find a Judge using the term "Nobility" to persons they are in the habit of calling Niggers.

The Province of Ahuriri or Hawke Bay, not an inapt designation, is the one in which the two races have come together on the most intimate terms of late years. It is an open pastoral country, where hostile bands could do but little mischief. Some of the large runs are fortunately for the next generation of Maoris held on long leases by the Europeans, from the aboriginal landlords. Their tenants have managed in a good many instances however to obtain the fee-simple of vast tracts upon very easy terms, and it is very questionable whether many of the lands will remain in the possession of the natives long. The Government, if individuals are unable to do so, is almost sure to dispossess them by some means or other. One or two of the larger holders in this part of the island, are men of a class of whom had there been more, it would have been well for the natives, gentlemen who have dealt fairly with them. There is very little doubt that if the North Island generally, had been settled by persons of the stamp who composed the old Squattocracy as it was termed, of Australia and Canterbury, there probably would never have been any war. But greedy land-sharks have been very busy there lately, and lessons have been taught the Maoris of that Province too, they will not speedily forget, and which have made them utterly to distrust the Europeans as a body, although they may have faith in a few individuals; even their own Pakeha lawyers whom they had taken to employ in order to protect themselves from being plundered, are now looked upon by them with suspicion.

The case of Te-Hapuka is before their eyes, one of their most noted warrior chieftains, a man who a few years ago could have come down with a thousand braves, and swept the white men into the sea, by merely holding up his hand, or possibly have consigned them to the ovens. But he was a good friend to the strangers, and worse for himself was the first to sell land on that coast to the Government, and give the grasping Pakeha a footing. They see him now impoverished, his ancestral lands gone, his carriage and

horses seized by a bailiff, and wicked disgusting farce, about to be made a bankrupt, for a debt contracted to a low Scotch shylock of Napier town who had swelled his fortune by his questionable dealings with him and his people. It certainly is something for a man to say he had served a writ upon and arrested the famous old Te-Hapuka for debt, and perhaps this fellow is proud of his feat, and of his name being remembered by the Maoris although it be with detestation. Fortunately the matter came under the notice of the Commissioner appointed under the 'Native Fraud Prevention Act' for things had got so outrageously bad, that a bill bearing that title was passed by the influence of those who viewed the proceedings going on with indignation, and dread also of the consequences. So the shameful attempt to deprive the old chief of his remaining property was exposed. The details were published in the Blue books, and reflect such disgrace upon all concerned, that perhaps the exposé may have the effect of making such unscrupulous persons more cautious in future. It is well nigh too late however in this Province, and it would have been better had the Government interfered in time to prevent the alienation of large areas for nominal considerations and sanctioned leases only. As an instance of how they were robbed, I may mention a circumstance which came to light at the late sittings of the court of enquiry held at Napier for the purpose of investigating the titles to lands alleged to have been purchased from the natives. A young lad of sixteen or eighteen, a principal owner of a large block alienated by his hape or subtribe to a storekeeper in the town to liquidate their debt to him, was asked by the Judge what he got for his share of the land. Four hundred pounds. Yes, said his Honor, I see the block was sold for £400, but I want to know what you got for it. Four hundred pounds,—stupid boy! your people agreed to sell for that price but what did you receive? what did you get into your own hands? oh me! me got one puggaree!

The temptations to acquire fine estates and immense sheep runs of from fifty to a hundred thousand acres for trifling sums was too great to be resisted even by those whose office and position made it their bounden duty to protect the natives, who have now the mortification of discovering what fools they have been, and cannot be expected to regard their new neighbours with the good-will they might have done were they receiving a fair rental for estates which would descend to their children. The change in the value of these lands came very suddenly. Sheep runs of from forty to fifty thou-

sand acres purchased for three or four thousand pounds within the last few years, would now bring eighty to a hundred thousand; two pounds per acre being the average value of freeholds of this description—when a land-tax comes to be imposed, as it will soon, the scale should be graduated in such a manner that the owners of these vast territories got for so little, and in most cases not by fair means, should bear a heavier burden. The thing is done however, and it is no use locking the stable door when the horse is stolen. Upon what possible plea the Government now claims a right to dictate to Native landholders any more than to European to whom they may sell, it is difficult to conceive. If the Ministers and their supporters who have acquired great estates so easily, were to set the example of making provision for the descendants of the aboriginal owners of the magnificent properties out of which they have been bamboozled it would be well, and look much better than passing the Bill they have done preventing any one in future acquiring lands directly from them as they themselves have done, except some of their particular friends who by trickery are able still to do so. It would have been more seemly had this measure been thought of even a little, say twelve months sooner, before their titles had all passed through the land's Court, and the rich plains of Ahuriri passed irrevocably into their possession.

The interference of the Government has somehow always been for bad, as regards the native lands. Being landbrokers themselves, and compelling sales to be made to the Crown only, and at nominal prices, to be re-sold directly at high rate to the settlers was one of the causes, indeed the real cause of the first troubles with the aborigines, whose right to the soil with strange inconsistency it was pretended to recognize. If from the first territories purchased from them, had been fairly paid for and the claims of men who got great estates for a puggaree been ignored, things would have been very different and eventually the Maori Chiefs would have held the position they are entitled to, of the real landed *aristocracy* of the Colony. It is too late I repeat to interfere in the same manner again, instead of seeing that a reasonable price is actually paid for lands bought from them, not merely promised, and doled out by degrees in goods charged for at fabulous rates, and it only irritates the natives to insist upon their selling to the Government agents, in order again, as in the earlier times of the Colony, to make large profits out of what is called the Colonial Estate, by re-selling small blocks at auction, and extracting the last shilling from the new settlers, whom such endeavours are being

made to induce to come to New Zealand. The present Ministers are not statesmen enough to see that every farthing taken from the emigrant with small means, for land which he has nothing left wherewith to cultivate and stock it, is so much lost to the country. Had this most peculiar Bill been to prevent sales altogether, and to encourage the Maoris to hold their lands and lease them to the settlers, there would have been not much objection to be raised, and it might have been taken as an evidence of the desire of its framers for the good of the Race. But it is just another instance amongst many of the selfish spirit which is so unfortunately characteristic of the present administration of the affairs of this over-governed Colony. Of course the passing of the Bill added at once immensely to the value of the already acquired estates, and the introducers and supporters of the measure derived in many instances great personal advantages.

Without the enormous expenditure, and air of mystery which envelopes the doings of the Land-purchasing or Native Department, as it is called, its chief being facetiously styled Defence Minister, it would be perfectly easy now to carry out the policy which experience has taught, and common honesty might long ago have suggested that it is better—seeing that sales direct to Europeans have so long been sanctioned,—to take care merely that the natives are not robbed, and obtain even at the eleventh hour the good-will and confidence if possible, of a shrewd and warlike people by equitable dealing, than to obtain possession of their territories first by cheating, then fighting, and after all having to pay for them, as is being done in the case of the lands on the West Coast, nominally confiscated after the last war. There is no reason for doubting that if a prudent and honest, at the same time firm and consistent, policy with the Maoris could be carried out, and not interfered with by political scheming, a fertile source always of trouble in New Zealand, or by the treacherous conduct of the Pakeha-Maoris, as a class of low whites are called who have lived much amongst them, and whose advice is always mischievous, that the North Island—New Zealand proper—would soon be as safe a country to reside and hold moveable property in, as Australia or the Provinces of Canterbury, Otago, &c., where the natives never very numerous were all but extinct when the Europeans settled there. It would tend greatly to this desirable end if the services of the agents employed by the Native Department were dispensed with altogether. A stranger travelling through the country is reminded by the airs of these people, of the

agents in China, more Chinese in their mysterious demeanour and sly ways than the Celestials themselves. It would be cheap indeed to pension them all off with their full salaries, so long as things remain quiet. Whilst the incomes of these gentry depend upon the continuance of difficulties, so long will troubles crop up, and things remain unsettled.

On the West Coast through the Taranaki Province Her Majesty's Mails are carried in a four-horse coach by a native contractor, and the coachman is sometimes a Maori. This contractor is the celebrated Honi-Pihama, a mild pleasant spoken Maori Rangatira—gentleman—but upon this chief in war time comes the Berserker spirit, and in battle his people say he is terrible to look upon, fiercest of the fierce, as well as bravest of the brave, and withal a consummate General. It was he who so nearly captured Sir Duncan Cameron and his staff at Nukumaru on this coast between Taranaki and Whanganui. With remarkable daring in broad daylight, he penetrated within the lines of the large army, overpowering the pickets, and had reached within a few yards of the Commander-in-Chief's tents when alarm was given, and the armstrong guns fired into the bush kept back his followers, and broke them up. There is little doubt had his men all come up in time, the panic they would have caused would have enabled him to carry out his adventurous attempt, as in a very few minutes more, he would, having such important prisoners, been able to dictate terms. As it was, in the confusion very few of his 600 followers were shot, but he was so enraged with their conduct, after making good his escape, and bringing them off in safety, he declared from that time forward he was a "Pakeha," and he kept his word, becoming a staunch ally. Military historians are altogether silent, or very reticent about this surprise. 'The result Sir James Alexander naively remarks, was to raise the Maoris in the estimation of the troops.' Honi-Pihama's elder brother is a man of great personal courage, but not of the same capacity, and Honi has always exercised the actual chieftainship. He distinguished himself also by his daring;—fool-hardy, and imprudent as the attempt was,—to attack with fifty men a column of fifteen hundred soldiers on the march in the open country. Of course he lost a great many of his braves who like himself had been worked up into a state of fanatical enthusiasm by some Hau-Hau Priest.

The road over which Honi-Pihama's coach runs, affords an instance of the anomalous state of affairs in the colony, so puzzling to strangers especially to persons coming from India. After travelling

two hundred and fifty miles and more from Wellington upon a fairly constructed highway, when the coach does not run along the smooth hard sea-beach, as it does for some distance, the traveller arrives at a place called Opunake where there is an inn, a post office and telegraph station, and other signs of civilization; he breakfasts, gets on the box, the morning is lovely, the blue sea in the near distance, and glorious the Peak of Mount Egmont towers close above him capped with snow, everything seems delightful, and joyously he lights his cigar. Suddenly the coachman pulls his horses off the roadway, and recklessly drives down a bank amongst the tall flax bushes, his cigar is gone, his hat knocked over his eyes by the stiff leaves which meet nearly over the top of the coach, not having quickly enough attended to the swarthy driver's "look out!" there is no passenger but himself; fiercely and determinedly the Maori goes shouting to his team deeper and deeper into the flax jungle, nothing is to be seen but flax, and high toi-toi bushes, and he is so jolted over the round boulders, and deep holes on the narrow track, that he begins to think the banging about must be preparatory to handing him over tender to some of the tawny Jehu's countrymen for dinner. Where in the name of Tawhiao are you going? why do you not keep the road? he piteously exclaims; with a quiet smile his friend replies, taihoa—patience—all right, bye and bye, good road, stony river,—Stony River? how far is that, when will we get there? you see sun! it has not reached the zenith nearly. Sun there, pointing towards the horizon apparently, then stony river! And so for half the day he crawls along, seldom getting more than four miles an hour or so over this horrible track, seeing nothing, shaken and bruised and all because he is in Te-Whitti's country. Confound Te-Whitti, who is Te-Whitti? says the enraged Pakeha. Hush! good man Te-Whitti! answers his companion glancing around, although he devoutly wishes no doubt that his prophet would allow a halfway station, and a change of horses on this weary stage, which in wet stormy weather is an experience only to be understood by having been gone through. This Te-Whitti is one of those clever unscrupulous individuals who make their appearance from time to time amongst people of all races. The doctrine of this Maori Mahomet is that Melchesidic was the symbolical prototype of the Trinity of Kings, Moses, king of Righteousness, Jesus Christ king of Salem, Te-Whitti king of Peace. The general belief of the Maoris is that they are Israelites, so he is fond of comparing their treatment at the hands of the Europeans to that of those of the chosen people by Pharaoh and the Egyptians, and

preaches that the two races can never amalgamate any more than the iron and clay of the feet of Nebuchadnezzar's image, the iron of course being typical of the Pakeha, the cruel crushing Pakeha. His oratorical gifts are considerable, and his staying power prodigious, he has been known to talk for twelve hours at a stretch, as happened on the occasion of a large assemblage of his followers, come from remote places to witness the first of the two Resurrections that are to take place, the first being that of the Maoris, which he had promised would occur on a fixed day. From Mokau, from Waikato, from the Whanganui river, and the Pahs up near Tongoriro Volcano, flocked to meet those dear to them the Hau-Haus, or king Natives, and many friendlies also, loaded with presents and provisions for long-departed fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, wives and children—bonnets, shawls, dresses, &c., purchased as they passed along at the townships by the way. It was an occasion when his utmost powers of persuasion were called forth, but he proved equal to it; and the result of his impassioned oratory, appealing gestures to heaven, feigned sotto voce conversations with the Deity (his acting it is said was superb) was, that he gradually accustomed the multitude to the possibility of the event being for urgent reasons deferred until a future day, and they departed on the following morning looking grave and disappointed, but believing still that it will take place bye and bye, on a more auspicious occasion when the dead warriors will arise in thousands, and drive the hated Pakehas into the sea. But what has a charlatan of this sort to do with there being no road, and a break of thirty miles and more in the telegraph line, it may be asked, as this country was a portion of that confiscated after the war, the Government might surely do as it thought proper. Yes, it was confiscated, and the Minister for Native affairs could have done exactly as he thought fit, especially in the matter of the road, the opening of which was distinctly stipulated for. But when the road was completed to the points mentioned, it occurred to some people that things were getting on too fast altogether. Where would be the necessity for so many persons' high salaries? what would be the excuse for maintaining a staff of Native Commissioners and interpreters? what was to become of their mysterious deportment, how could they continue by obscure hints as to the importance of their secret services to delude people into believing any longer in the necessity of their existence, if all these improvements were quietly permitted by the most turbulent natives in New Zealand, as those of this coast have always had the reputation of being.

So one of these officials deeming his six or eight hundred a year would be much safer if they were put a stop to, went to this Te-Whitti, and asked him if he had any objections to the road and telegraph line being completed through this portion of the country. Objections! said the astute Maori, most certainly I have the very greatest objections, and will permit neither one or the other—the first man crossing the boundary stream to put up a telegraph pole, or break a stone on the road will be shot, I cannot prevent it. After a good Korero-talk, it was arranged that the coach might pass along the unmade track as best it could, by paying three hundred a year to the Maori escort, a boy generally being sent to save appearances, and Maori boys were to carry the telegrams once a day between the stations; for which a similar sum was to be given. Te-Whitti and his people were delighted with this unexpected windfall, and laughed heartily afterwards over the matter as an excellent joke, seeing they had never dreamed of opposition, living as they were by sufferance upon confiscated land. The native department was also satisfied, and the Ministers laughed in their sleeves, and so the matter remains.

At present people can travel anywhere except through the King's country (absolutely closed to Europeans) with perfect security. Coaches run over very tolerable roads, some macadamized, and made frequently by native contractors, far into the interior of the island, indeed crossing it from Wellington to Napier, and thence by Taupo lake and Rotorua—parties of ladies during the last two or three years have visited these interesting regions—nevertheless it will be concluded from the causes I have mentioned, and the general demoralization of the race by their intercourse with the whites, that one might select a more agreeable people to live amongst than the Maoris, who now neither love, respect, nor stand in fear of the intruding Pakeha.

Although one cannot sympathize with those who instead of blaming their own rash folly, or blind cupidity, seek to cast the blame of the misfortunes that happened upon the incapacity of the commanders of the Imperial troops, possibly it might have been different to-day had the armies so often worsted by small bodies of natives been under more brilliant leaders, heaven sent commanders, able to accomplish feats next to impossible, for the war was a novel one. The soldiers found themselves fighting against foes man for man their equals, and in the singularly impracticable forest country far their superiors, men too fighting for their country each with all the fire and enthusiasm of a William Tell. Even had Sir Duncan Cameron not been in-

terfered with by the native office, and been at issue with Sir George Grey the Governor, and been able to have conducted the war entirely as he judged fit, the ten thousand troops of the line under his command might have left the shores of New Zealand with the satisfaction of feeling that all possible disturbances were over. For having entered upon it, distasteful as the war was to the troops, who felt it was an unjust one, they as well as every Englishman of right feeling would naturally have desired that we should have come out of it with credit. The miserable story may be gathered from the short account of it given by Mr. Fox, the late Premier and former Attorney General of the Colony, one of the few public men holding power lately in New Zealand who is respected privately, as well as in his capacity as a statesman. He at least had the welfare of its inhabitants, native and foreign, at heart, more than his personal aggrandizement, not having imbibed the "spirit of the Till" which so powerfully influenced the actions of his associates and successors. He explains many of the circumstances which caused the utter destruction of the prestige of English soldiers in the country, and made that campaign in which so many brave officers fell trying to save the honor of their colors, the most lamentable episode in the military annals of Great Britain.

No doubt it would be a serious matter were that most improbable event a general outbreak to take place now ; or any falling out even, occur with the powerful friendly tribes by whose means the Colonists have held their position and possessions in the North island since the Imperial forces were withdrawn ; although much, very much credit is due to the colonial troops, their numbers were small. They showed the Maoris certainly that the Pakehas can fight, and gained their respect accordingly, but they could not have done much without their allies. Seldom have deeds more deserving of the Victoria Cross and other rewards been performed by British soldiers, than by many of these men whose names are scarce mentioned by those who have published accounts of what they have the assurance to call the Rebellion of the Maoris, a people whom we had never conquered, who had never ceded to us their country, (for the so-called treaty of Waitangi made with bamboozled chiefs, unknown to, and having no authority over those of other tribes, although it may be pretended to be an evidence of acknowledgment of suzerainty, cannot be of cession) who still maintain to this day in large districts the most defiant attitude, and refuse to have any dealings with Governors, native Ministers, or Pakehas of any description, and where under their

titular King a portion of this brave race strive to satisfy their burning desire to preserve their nationality.

Gentlemen (especially those who have served as officers in Her Majesty's Service, perhaps more strongly even than civilians) travelling through the country, who chanced to hear of the gallant acts of many of the colonial soldiers, cannot but be pained that historians of the war have not rendered them their due. That brave deeds are passed over unrequited and unrecorded, as were those of many officers of the Indian Army in the Sepoy war, which had they been in the Imperial Service would have been worthily rewarded and would have raised them to high rank and distinction, whilst Victoria Crosses and other decorations have been conferred upon men who did very little to merit them, but who asked for them, as colonial premiers and speakers clamour for knighthoods, and had interest to obtain their desire.

General Sir James Alexander has published a Book entitled "Bush-Fighting," in order as he says, "that in justice to the forces engaged, regulars and colonials, soldiers and sailors, their gallant deeds and sufferings should be recorded, thus I have introduced the names of every officer or private sentinel, soldier, or seaman, I could discover, who is mentioned in any despatch or report of a creditable action." The General has in one respect fulfilled the task he undertook, and in that volume mentioned an immense number of names. But there are many who would have much preferred to have been passed by unnoticed, rather than have had theirs introduced merely to be slighted by faintest commendation, and the merit of the services they performed given to others. It is very unfortunate that in compiling this account he had not obtained correct information, and had the means of ascertaining the true version of many of the incidents he relates, instead of having to depend upon ingeniously worded reports sent in to Head Quarters, and published in Colonial Blue Books. Amongst many instances in which meritorious services, and brilliant deeds have not met with deserved reward, one hears not of one, but numerous acts performed by Captain Mace of the Taranaki Mounted Volunteers, a small body of men then under the command of Captain Des Vœux. General Carey, severe as he is in his remarks upon the colonial troops generally, speaks in high commendation of this corps, he says, "even in most dangerous times, they rode long distances carrying orders day and night alone or in twos.....anxious

to work, and ever fearless of danger, they were invaluable, and amongst them he mentions Mace as "the pluckiest fellow I ever met." It will be admitted that on the occasions mentioned, looking at the facts, the manner that gentleman's name is introduced, is scarcely a fitting one.

" Especial notice of the General was requested to be directed to " the noble conduct of Ensign Down, 57th Regiment; and Drummer " Dudley Stackpoole who while under fire from natives, not forty " yards from them, brought away wounded men, at the risk of their " own lives, their efforts being ably seconded by Private Antonio " Rodrigues, a mounted orderly of the Taranaki Militia who carried " two men off the field on his horse and galloped through a party of " natives to take orders to Captain Shortt. Captain Mace and the " mounted orderlies generally were of good service in helping " the wounded and distributing the ammunition."—*Bush-Fighting*, page 86.

It would have been more correct to have stated that the efforts of Captain Mace, and his orderly Antonio Rodrigues were ably and gallantly seconded by Ensign Down, the fact being that the wounded men were lifted close under the Maori rifles by the former on to Antonio's horse, who brought them out, and gave them over to Ensign Down, who was bravely pushing on to aid Mace, as usual in front, dashing up to the enemy. Captain Mace's gallant conduct in the affair speaks for itself; just as might have been expected from a man of his character, he made no claim it appears on his own account, but sought to obtain the V. C. for his orderly Antonio Rodrigues, which he had so well deserved, especially for the manner in which he charged through the Maoris, having more than fifty shots fired at him as he went with the despatch to Captain Shortt. But the Colonel commanding declined to recommend him for that distinction, as he desired to get it he said for the credit of his regiment, but promised he should have the first canteen vacant on the Coast, which would be better worth his while having than the Victoria Cross—so it was given to Mr. Down, a brave young officer, but whose claim to it was not the greatest on that occasion. He poor fellow did not enjoy his honor long, dying soon afterwards.

The two following incidents may be placed in juxtaposition.

Whilst General Alexander makes the best of the circumstances under which Colonel McNeill obtained the V. C., which are however stated very differently by an eye-witness, he makes no mention of the occasion when Captain Mace having gallantly undertaken to take despatches for the Commander-in-Chief at a place called Pariaka, through a country known to be swarming with armed natives fell into an ambuscade, the first volley severely wounded his two orderlies, one being shot through the neck, and the other in the leg; holding the one almost dying man on his horse with one hand, and his revolver in the other, he brought both his wounded companions off, the Maoris seemed to respect the dashing bravery and coolness of their well known adversary, and let him pass without firing again.

“Major McNeill, A. D. C., when returning from Te-Áwamutu accompanied by an orderly was fired on by fifty or sixty natives. His orderly and his horse rolled into a potato pit concealed in the fern, but the Major did not gallop off, but waited, caught the horse, helped the man to mount and carried him off in safety to a party engaged in levelling an abandoned pah, and thus secured the Victoria Cross.”—*Bush-Fighting*, page 160.

Without at all disparaging Major McNeill's courageous act, or endorsing the often-expressed opinion that under the circumstances of the position of the Maoris at the time the man fell, it was a V. C., a Commander-in-Chief's A. D. C. could only have secured, there appears to be at least equal reason for its being awarded in the case mentioned opposite, to Captain Mace, who had not even the strong moral support the propinquity of a strong force of friends gives, as General Alexander truly enough observes, and who brought off two severely wounded men through the midst of the enemy, instead of one unwounded, from a position of possible danger. It is not mentioned, however, except in the general way that Captain Mace and the men of the force he belonged to were of good service as General Carey says

in carrying despatches.' The Colonial Minister Mr. Domett in recommending to the Governor, Sir George Grey, who strongly concurred in his suggestion, that some special order of merit should be conferred upon distinguished Colonial officers, very properly says, "that the members of his Government desire to guard themselves from being supposed to express an opinion that precisely the same distinctions should be conferred upon them, as upon officers of H. M.'s Regular Forces, which may be considered to be bestowed not merely as a reward for particular service of more than usual merit, but of a long course of these ordinary services satisfactorily performed, of which the one that receives the distinction is only the complement making up the sum of desert, of which such reward is the due acknowledgment." It would have been more graceful had this idea which was canvassed at the time received support from the Commanding Officers in New Zealand, and would have afforded them a more satisfactory mode of getting over the difficulty, than by making as little of brave deeds as possible, unless performed by Regular soldiers.

A similar case as that of Antonio Rodrigues occurred in the Waikato, when Captain Ring was shot at Orakan, a militia man lifted him up under the breast-work of the Maori Pah and carried him out on his back being severely wounded whilst doing so, he staggered on with his burthen however until out of reach of the Maori bullets when he met a soldier of the Regulars to whom he delivered his mortally wounded officer, the soldier received the Victoria Cross, the poor wounded militia man was passed over, and his brave deed went unrewarded.

There was a most miserable affair happened on 6th April, 1861, at Ahu-Ahu when the sorely wounded Captain Lloyd, and several men were deserted by their companions, and left to be beheaded by the natives—it is said the Colonel was asked by the fiery Mace to arrest the officers there present, a course he mercifully to them did not take, although perhaps he himself and such gallant soldiers as Major Butler and Major Rose Russell, both distinguished men belonging to the same regiment might have felt that it would have been a merited punishment to have cashiered them on the spot; but there remains amongst the public documents of New Zealand, the General Order, he caused to be read in front of the regiment, and also of every corps serving in the Province, containing scathing indignant words, such as seldom have been addressed by a British Colonel to his men, especially in respect of the officers' desertion "of their wounded

comrade whom they ought to have staid by to the last." The consequences of this melancholy affair were sufficiently disastrous. The Maoris speak with unmitigated contempt of the conduct of the "hoheas," soldiers on that occasion still, which was made so much of by the Priests. It was then seeing how much terror was caused amongst the Pakehas, by the fierce attack of their warriors, they promulgated the horrid Pai-Mariri religion, and caused the heads of the slaughtered men, to be sent round to instil more fear into their enemies, and inspire with additional courage the converts to the New Creed. General Alexander noticing the affair merely relates it as an instance of the necessity of caution, pointing out how when he was with General D'Urban in Caffre land they kept a good lookout, when they halted for a meal—and appears to have been unaware of the unhappy facts which elicited such strong expressions from Colonel Warr, as he says, "the survivors of the party brought away the wounded, but were not able to save the remains of the slain," and yet strange to say he mentions how Captain Lloyd shot three natives with his pistol after he fell with a broken thigh. In the usual acceptation of the term, the survivors were the 100 men who ran away and left their wounded comrades to be massacred, but the whole of the troops in the Province and the rest of the inhabitants were no doubt survivors and the puzzled reporter of the affair cleverly thought of using the term in the account from which no doubt General Alexander obtained his information. When the news of the melancholy affair came in, Captain Mace with his mounted volunteers galloped at once to the place, without waiting as urged to do, for the Colonel had a strong force of Regulars, who marched on, only to find the mutilated remains of their comrades in possession of Captain Mace's troop; the enemy had gone. It appears very singular that if the militia and volunteers were so little to be depended upon, that they should have been entrusted with such arduous and dangerous duties as were delegated to them on different occasions, notably on 28th March, 1860, at the celebrated affair of Waireka.

The garrison at Taranaki was then under the command of Colonel Murray of the 65th Regiment, an officer who unfortunately was best fitted for parade duties out of reach of war's alarms. A respected clergyman and his family and others being in a perilous position surrounded by hostile natives, volunteers were called for, to assist in bringing them into the settlement. Men of sixty and upwards, and lads of fourteen and sixteen years of age, were amongst

those responding, and having had the old brown bess served out to them, marched out full of pluck and determination; many never had arms in their hands previously, although there were a few in the ranks who had seen hard fighting, such as Mr. Messenger, father of the Captain Messenger, who is often mentioned as so conspicuous for cool daring and judgment in the late war. The old gentleman served as lieutenant on board the flagship at the bombardment of Algiers in 1816, and on this unhappy day doing duty gallantly as a private, was very severely wounded by the Maoris. Colonel Murray in the narrative of the proceedings furnished by him says, "I have the honor to report for the information of the Officer commanding the forces in New Zealand that on the 28th instant I proceeded in command of a force to Omata, for the purpose of rescuing some European families stated to be in the hands of the rebel natives assembled in considerable force at that village. The plan of operations was, that Captain Brown in command of the militia and volunteers, should proceed by the beach keeping the sea-coast, and passing in rear of the natives who had built a Pah on the Waireka hills, whilst I should proceed by the main road." Nothing could read more pleasantly, nothing seemingly could be easier than to march along the sea beach, but it must be remembered that to get to the rear of the natives, it was necessary for the 'settler fellows' to fight their way through the enemy swarming between the road and the beach, and armed with double-barreled rifles, or for the most part with superior far-killing weapons—but of course this was a matter of little consequence, what were such fellows good for, but to be shot at? and it was in accordance with the custom always observed in New Zealand, that the Colonial forces should take the post of danger, and protect the Regulars, going out, it was always, (it will be seen in the reports of engagements) volunteers or Forest-rangers to the front, and in coming back they guarded from attacks on the rear. He goes on to say, "on reaching the spot named, I found the way clear and no trace of natives anywhere near, but the sound of rapid firing about two miles off, and towards the sea made it evident the volunteers were hotly engaged." So the gallant Colonel having detached a small force to make a diversion in their favour, thought it his duty to go no nearer himself, but remained firing at imaginary enemies amongst the fern whilst the fight went on all day long below him. A Maori Chief had said the day before to one of the settlers, "if you come to attack us we will dance a war-dance, and shout, and then

the hoheas will run away, and we will follow them and burn the town." They found however that they could not intimidate the foe they had now to deal with by their yells, and although armed with much better weapons than the volunteers, and much more numerous, were kept at bay, and repulsed again and again, losing many braves. As the day grew on, Colonel Murray says, "considering my force too small to keep our communication open should they attack us in force, I recalled Lieutenant Blake's party, and Lieutenant Urquhart's, particularly as the day was far advanced, and my orders were to return by dark, I have received no report of Captain Brown's proceedings who was too far off for observation in a gully with the natives above him." So he marched back to town,—Captain Brown's feelings in this gully, surrounded by overwhelming numbers of Maoris can be imagined when he saw himself deserted, especially with very little ammunition left, having sent in vain to Colonel Murray for some of that he was blazing away at a distance—also the disgust of the intrepid Lieutenant Urquhart who with 25 soldiers and a few blue jackets, had rendered good assistance until ordered to return and leave the volunteers to their fate. It is probable that Lieutenant Blake who came with a small party from H. M. S. *Niger* would have refused to see the signal of recall but he had been severely wounded, in pressing through with Urquhart to their assistance—fortunately late in the evening Captain Cracroft himself came up, having landed with a number of his sailors, stormed the Pah, and saved the settlers, whose ammunition was all but expended. The whole thing was too much for the brave sailor's equanimity, and at his instance a court of enquiry was held, but the result never transpired, Colonel Murray however escaped being again exposed to Maori bullets. No comment upon the gallant conduct of the Colonial force on this occasion appears in the despatches. Of course they were fighting for their friends, the young men fired with the desire to rescue the young ladies especially, whom they believed in danger, and their blood was up being challenged by natives personally known to them, and so they had every reason for fighting manfully—there were few harder-fought engagements during the war, and on no occasion did the natives suffer more than they did at the hands of these boys.

A full account of all the wars with the Maoris will be written by some unprejudiced person, it is to be hoped, ere long, including the fighting that took place after the withdrawal of the Imperial troops. The many brave deeds performed by men unheard of out of New Zea-

land, may then be made known to their fellow-countrymen as they so well deserve to be, if they are to receive no other acknowledgment.

General Carey says, "I believe Mr. Mace lost much property at the outbreak of the war, and I trust that the Government may have found some means of rewarding him." It is strange that so good a soldier as he, should not have thought it incumbent upon him to recommend that the distinction brave men most value should be conferred upon one whose singular dash and courage he extols, and should as Colonel Warre did in Antonio's case, deem such natures would be equally well satisfied with mere pecuniary remuneration.

Many of those who did good service in the Queen's as well as the Colonial Volunteer and other corps, entered after their regiments left the small standing army of New Zealand, called the 'Defence Force' which the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Duncan Cameron, stated had "attained to a high state of discipline and efficiency." It was some time commanded by Colonel Nixon, a brave officer killed at Rangiwahia, whom General Alexander had been acquainted with, he tells us in his book in the Crimea, and in consequence goes so far as to say, "his corps *under him* acted with greatest spirit and gallantry." It is now called "the Armed Constabulary," in deference to the ultra-snobbishness, one can find no other word, and dislike to gentlemen generally, amongst those who have the chief say in affairs, and vote their pay—and in sympathy with the contemptible satisfaction it gave a man risen from the ranks, to snub officers under whom he had served as a private, and who had come to be his subordinates in the colony; and also to enable those nominally to carry out their boast who had said that they could control the Maoris without the aid of troops, by means of the usual police. The Head of the Department was still styled, the Defence Minister—Chief Land Broker would be a much more suitable title for the part he has now to play—but the Defence Force was altogether too aristocratic a designation. The majority of its senior officers have held Commissions in Her Majesty's Service, some of them in the Guards and most distinguished regiments, as well as a large proportion of the non-commissioned officers and troopers, many others of the latter being young men of birth and education, the ranks being now recruited mostly with young gentlemen coming to the colony, who can find no better employment, or who have done so expressly with the view of entering "the New Zealand army"—poor fellows! Being in the force is a pretty

sure guarantee of a man's steadiness and character, the discipline being very strict, and regulations very stringent, so that it may challenge comparison with any body of men, similarly constituted. The idea however, that its officers should "give themselves airs" as one of the members of the assembly complained they did, and that a man receiving 6s. or 8s. a-day for carrying a rifle should consider himself entitled to be treated with any consideration, and should talk as their equals to the rich retired publicans and storekeeping M. P.'s was as intolerable, they must be snubbed; so they were called Constables, and their officers Inspectors, and Sub-Inspectors. Great is the indignation, and astonishment evinced by these people, and the wealthy citizens of Auckland, &c., who have made fortunes selling grog, or more innocently tapes and needles, over their counters, to find the few gentlemen scattered about in the country districts, entertaining at their tables, and making companions of persons holding the position of a mere constable nominally; the fact is that in most parts of the North Island, there are more gentlemen, by birth, education and conduct, serving in the armed constabulary, than are to be met with any other position. The assertion that the country is kept quiet, and Maori insurrections repressed by means of common police that one hears reiterated so constantly is simply false, and is a silly mode of displaying the dislike very prevalent in the colony to men whose profession gives them a status in society, the ministers and their followers have no claim or chance of holding, outside the walls of their assembly chamber. This armed constabulary numbering under a thousand men forms a valuable nucleus of trained soldiers, called by whatever name they please, which can be expanded at any moment. Every man in the North Island from 17 to 55 years of age must enrol himself in some corps or another, and attend drill at stated periods. There are numerous Volunteer Companies, Mounted Yeomanry, and Militia, all of whose officers are *Colonels, Majors, and Captains*, so that Military titles are as common as in America, and the designation of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors becomes after all one of distinction, however unintentional, and unwished for.

Besides these there are the large well-armed force of the friendly Arrawas under their leader and chief, Ropata, who holds Her Majesty's Commission as Major, a born soldier under whom officers of the Imperial force served during the war, and with pleasure, as he is a quiet well-mannered gentleman withal. His force, with the Native Contingent, was the principal reliance of the colonists during the

last campaign if it can be so called, when a million sterling was expended in hunting Tito-Kawara and Te-Kooti—the latter corps is composed of picked men from the friendly tribes, many of them sons of influential chiefs, and is officered by Europeans,—dressed as they are in jackets, and bright shawl kilts, and being enthusiastically fond of all that appertains to the pomp and circumstance of war, thoroughly up in their drill, they might stand side by side with the “Black Watch” or 93rd Highlanders, and not suffer much by comparison. The great tribe of Nga-Puhis, the most numerous, and powerful one remaining, the time immemorial foes of the Waikatos, are good allies also.

There is small danger therefore of any united opposition being made to the advance of the Europeans. It is considered, however, that it is best to put up with much, rather than to risk fighting against the large forces of soldiers by instinct, who might be arrayed against the Government,—so whilst by the land-buying policy the natives are irritated on the one hand, influential malcontents are brought off on the other. There should be some limit to paying this black mail, and there is danger in conceding to unreasonable demands so constantly; the Native Department does not appear to be aware that the Maoris are men of equal shrewdness, and subject to like passions as Europeans. It is to be feared that when the large sums the present administration has had at its command to buy peace with are exhausted, a troublesome legacy will be left to its successors. For the sake of the Maoris themselves they should not be treated so much as spoiled children, and any outrage committed should be punished with firmness and decision. The lovers of peace amongst them, and there are many such amongst the most influential chiefs, who know that war means destruction to their race, would wish to see this course pursued, and would lend ready assistance in carrying it out. A vacillating timid policy, such as at present pursued, may suit the purposes of persons anxious to keep their official salaries, but it is most cruel to the aboriginal owners of the coveted lands, and is much more likely to lead to local disturbances, which for the sake of the remnant of this brave people are much to be dreaded. Another war would be apt to prove one of extermination, and there are not a few people in New Zealand who would like to see it, and long for the opportunity of “polishing off the niggers,” as they declare their desire to be. It is abominable enough to hear the “low whites” speaking in this way, but it is almost incredible, and truly sad to find educated Englishmen doing so. The

author of one of the latest publications, referring to New Zealand, a book which must have satisfied his bitterest enemy, expresses these sentiments with the most astounding coolness. Forty thousand Maoris he considers too formidable a number for the safety of the intruding Pakehas, and recommends that the three Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria and New Zealand, should at once unite in reducing their numbers materially. If a murder is committed near B-n h-l, perhaps this Chairman of Quarter Sessions and Queen's Counsel, may advocate the decimation forthwith of the inhabitants of the shire.

“Cash rules the camp, the court,” no doubt amongst the Maoris as amongst civilized nations, to their credit be it said, it is not so potent in “the grove.” The majority of the chiefs having everything to lose, and nothing to gain by war, do not sympathise with King Tawhiao and his Minister Rewi in their determined isolation. They are aware of the mischief that arises from their not being aware from personal observation of the rapid advance of the Europeans, and the irresistible wave of population rolling in upon them from every point of their shores, against which they are wise enough to see it is vain to contend, and that the best thing they can do, is to make money out of the Pakehas. Peace at any price, rather no bother with Maori marauders is as before observed the creed of the present rulers, being that of the head of the Native Department, whose scheme as chief Land-broker for the Government, of purchasing up all the territories in the hands of the aboriginal proprietors depends upon quiet being maintained, and herein the ablest chiefs also see that there lies another source of danger, to their race, as things passed over lately, are taken by the King's people as unmistakeable evidence of weakness, and the dread of their warriors entertained by the hated Pakeha.

General Sheridan complains (without very good reason however, if we are to believe the stories in American papers) of the mode of dealing with the Indians in the far west,—He says “when the white man robs we send him to the Penitentiary, when he murders we hang him, when the red-skin commits both outrages we give him more blankets.” Most assuredly the “sugar and blanket policy” as the colonists call it has been carried to the most vicious extreme lately in New Zealand. It is quite monstrous that the people should be taxed as they are to support the enormous expenditure of the Native Department, if atrocities like the murders of the Rev. Mr. Whitely, Mr. and Mrs. Gascoigne, and their children, (instigated as they were by

vile white men) of Mr. Todd, and of Sullivan the other day are to pass unpunished, and made out to be merely the result of private quarrels. This being the dishonest and ignominious way adopted lately of getting out of troubles of the kind.

In this pitiful policy which to a person coming from British India appears equally unwise as it is degrading, the Ministry is supported by the members from Otago, Canterbury, and other Provinces in the middle island, where money only is thought of, and any such old-fashioned notion, as defending British honor would be pooh-poohed as childish. If a capitalist buys land from the Government, and the unfortunate men he hires to work there, have their heads barbarously hacked off with their own pocket-knives, and their hearts torn out whilst still alive, as was the fate of poor Sullivan at the hands of some Maori fanatics, of the hau-hau creed, that is their own fault for going to places not within sight of a stockade. The friendly natives in the neighbourhood of the place where this affair took place were most indignant at its being passed over; the perpetrators were well known, and might have been easily secured; and urgent telegrams were sent to the chief of the Department at Wellington to ask leave to take and bring them in. But this summary mode of dealing with such a business would never have suited. A telegram was posted up from Head Quarters at the Waikato townships, stating that ten days would be given to the King natives to deliver the murderers into custody, the colonial forces were mustered up, arms served out, settlers ordered in from their farms, drilling went on vigorously, and galloping about in all directions but the right one. Purukutu the ringleader and his followers were given time to get well away into the recesses of the King country, and the troops went home again, and the jubilant ministers were able to meet the parliament, with the statement that all was quiet, only a man or two, drunken Irishmen, it was hinted, had been killed in some squabble with natives,—whereas the poor fellows it was well known were working in a deep drain up to their waists in water, improving a swamp sold by the Government, in spite of the protestations of its rightful owners, when they were attacked and fired upon in their helpless situation, and murdered in cold blood by these Pai-Mariri fanatics, within a mile or two of the Head Quarters of the troops and residence of the Government Agent for the district.

But the same course is pursued with the natives, which the astute Vogel follows with the members of the House of Assembly. Conscientious, quite-going, dull supporters of the Government are

put off with promises, whilst noisy troublesome place-hunters get what they ask, and come back from the sumptuous repasts at the Ministerial residence moulded by this undoubtedly clever "Comprachico" into humble servants of his will, so friendly Maoris like those of Hawke-Bay are plundered of their possessions, whilst truculent marauders and murderers are patted on the back, and given more blankets, and money wherewith to buy Wai-piro fire-water to kill themselves with. In this way the Government manages to keep in power, by the deliberate demoralization of the Representatives of the people and of the Maoris, and even to get credit for the present seemingly flourishing state of the colony, due really to the commercial prosperity prevailing throughout Australasia, and all other countries affected by the unprecedentedly high price of wool during the last four years, and locally to a considerable extent of course, to the lavish squandering of the vast sums of money raised upon the credit of the colonists, for the purpose of carrying out similar undertakings in the way of introducing emigrants and constructing railroads and other public works, as have been prosecuted for long in the neighbouring colonies, but with more prudence, and vigour, although Mr. Vogel would wish to persuade people that the scheme is his own peculiar invention. Already the debt of New Zealand is two-thirds of that of all the Australian Colonies with their two millions of inhabitants put together; so he certainly must be accorded the credit of having initiated a scheme of borrowing on a grander scale in proportion to the means of paying the interest, and of spending the money as he the Colonial Treasurer thinks fit. In these days the note a man sends to gay acquaintance, inviting him to a Sunday dinner at the "Star and Garter," or to his box at the opera to listen to some syren in *La Traviata* may bear his device of arms, a hand pointing to a star in the heavens, with the motto *denique cœlum*,—the *Nobleman* speculating in Railway or Gas Companies closes his letter applying for shares with a seal *semée* as the heralds say, of crosses of various forms with the words beneath, *Crux Christi nostra corona*, "auspice Christi," or some such sentence reverently adopted perhaps by some devout or crusading penitent. The Treasurer of New Zealand from his long connection with the Press, thoroughly understands that the journalist who daily meets his readers with the asseveration that "all the ends he aims at, are the truth's, his country's, God's," goes further than mere thoughtlessness of the unseemly incongruity, and makes the reservation, after he has served his own—and so the press is bought, and utterly subservient for the

most part, and people at home and abroad are kept in ignorance of what is going on.

Although in such a money-seeking community, it is scarcely to be hoped for, still it is just possible that a gentleman may be found willing to take the reins of Government who would be strong enough from his force of character and position to carry out a thorough reform in the various departments, and a nobler policy towards the natives. One who would scorn to be a party to the cruel waiting game which the present ministers receive so much credit for, temporising in an ignominious manner, not from regard to the ultimate advantage of the aborigines, but merely with a view to their own personal aggrandizement, and for the satisfaction of their followers, and the mass of settlers, who look forward with complacency to the time when the Maori will be gone. It will scarcely be worth while soon, proposing plans by which the remnant of this fine race of men may be rendered a contented and thriving people. In a very few years the persons who come to carry such out, will find only uninhabited villages with the grass growing rank about the doors. They will find but a few decrepid chiefs, and old miserable women sitting ragged and dejected, their eyes bleared with the fiery poison that has destroyed their race, thinking of the days when they were more than a match for the Pakehas, who have taken their lands, their rivers and bays, from whence the fishing canoes now rotting on the beach were wont to be put out in the bright mornings, and the air rang with the merry songs of their stalwart crews—and that will be all. Any endeavour to stay the demoralisation, and to arrest the rapid extirpation of the natives, the present system is so surely bringing about, must be made soon. Many look anxiously to the former Governor, Sir George Grey, coming from his retirement in his isle of Kawaw and entering the political arena, as a last hope, his known ability and influence with the natives, and determination of character would be of greatest service at this juncture to his adopted country.

If it is really the desire of the colonists to treat the Maori as an equal, as so many profess to wish to do, it is absolutely necessary as pointed out by Mr. Merivale in his exhaustive lectures upon Colonies and Colonization “to exclude the settlers from contact with them, and adopt the policy of insulation—that of the United States and intrust them to the good offices of the Missionary”—a policy the Maoris have themselves initiated, only with feelings, and for reasons

it would be well to see changed. They should be given to understand that the whole of the "King's Country," if it is still possible to induce them to put any trust in the word of the white man, is to be inalienably theirs, that Europeans will only be permitted to go there by the Government to reside, for educational, and similar purposes—the expense of maintaining persons employed in such duties being borne by the State. In a very few years if this were arranged, and thoroughly believed in by the natives, no obstruction would be offered by them to the main trunk railway being carried across the island by the most desirable and easiest route, and future generations would see the country inhabited by the descendants of the ancient lords of the soil as well cultivated and prosperous as any portion of the islands—the severest penalties should be inflicted upon any European furnishing them with alcohol in any shape whatever in the meantime, and the Chiefs should be given free passes on the present Railroads, to induce them to cross the boundary line and see for themselves the advantages enjoyed, and prosperity of those of their own race, who have not been tempted by gold, but have kept their lands, and settled down to industrial pursuits amongst the Europeans. The very different spirit which influences the present rulers of the Colony as regards the well-being of the aborigines may be understood from the audacious speech of a member of the Assembly in his place there, that no man had done more harm in New Zealand than the late Chief Justice Sir William Martin, unless it were Bishop Selwyn. Every one knows how strong the feelings of the venerated Judge were regarding the treatment of the Maoris in respect to their lands, and how it grieved him as it did the noble Bishop to see the change for the worse that was coming upon them, and their prospects in aftertimes—"Civilization may be thrown back, Mr. Bagehot has remarked, by the conquest of many very rude men over a few less rude men," the civilization of the Maoris at one time quite hopeful has been rolled back by very rude men indeed—the individual who made this rude as well as false assertion was a Taranaki settler, a bullock-driving-militia major, who was one of those urgent for the occupation of the land at the Waitara, the first cause of all the subsequent troubles.

The vulgar Europeans call their tawny-skinned neighbours "Niggers," "savages" and other opprobrious epithets more applicable to themselves. They have their faults no doubt, chief amongst them a great want of veneration in which they equal, if they do not surpass the rising generation of low whites in the colonies, who pre-

sent a notable example of the effects of the use and disuse of particular organs. It must be admitted too that the Maoris generally show a great lack of gratitude, but it is to be remembered that as a people they have nothing to be grateful for to the Europeans, and indeed have good reason for hating them, which as a race they undoubtedly now do cordially in their hearts, and when their patriotic feelings are roused in time of war, they overcome in individuals personal affection, and gratitude for kindness shown to themselves by the unfortunate white man, who falls beneath their tomahawk, as Cæsar by the hand of his friend Brutus. Against these failings their many good qualities are to be placed. Their bitterest revilers must admit that they possess an intuitive magnanimity, and are often quite chivalrous in their conduct in war. The colonists were not exposed at any time to sudden attacks from large bodies of natives under chiefs of distinction, without fair warning, and civilized nations may well take a lesson in humanity from the so-called savages. During the last campaign when the commissariat waggons fell on one occasion into the enemy's hands, he let them pass, and on another obeyed literally the injunction 'feed your enemies' and sent boat-loads of potatoes, &c., down the Waikato river to General Cameron. The brave warrior chieftains disdained to fight with starving Pakehas. At the Gate-Pah when an officer, Colonel Booth, fell into their hands mortally wounded, a young chief at imminent risk of his own life, went out of the Pah to bring him water. Ancient or modern history as Mr. Fox says truly, records no story of greater courage and determination than that of the heroic defenders of Orakau Pah; without food or water, a small force held out for three days against our well appointed troops, who surrounded them in overwhelming numbers, pouring upon them shot and shell and all the deadliest missiles of modern *civilized* war. Sir Duncan Cameron, with the humanity of a brave man, urged them to surrender and save their lives; their answer was, "this is the word of the Maori to you, oh General, we will fight for ever, and ever, and ever!" He then entreated them to send out their women and children, but they replied, "our women will fight you too." At last exhausted by hunger and thirst, calmly and deliberately in the face of death, they abandoned their position, and in silent grim array, their women and children in the midst, who uttered not a sound, without firing a shot, they marched straight down on the double line of the 40th regiment,—such was the effect of their defiant advance that the greater part of this gallant three hundred made good their escape,

jumping over the heads of some of the first line of soldiers placed under a bank, and walking straight through the second. In the pursuit, which lasted for six miles, about a hundred of these brave warriors fell, amongst them some females. General Cameron would gladly have saved the devoted band "from the terrific fire of our troops" that fell upon them, and in his despatch could not refrain from paying a just tribute of admiration to their heroism.

The Maori's love of their father-land for which they have fought so well, and to their respective localities is exceedingly strong. Every inch of ground from the Southern extremity of the islands to the North Cape had an owner, but the ownership as in other patriarchal communities did not vest exclusively in the individual, but in hapus, or sub-tribes the Heads of the families being for the time the representatives of the title; over all was the "mana" or feudal superiority of the Chieftain of the tribe. The boundaries of their particular hunting grounds, as well as cultivated lands, have always been most rigidly guarded. The celebrated chief Renata made an eloquent appeal to the Governor that the war might be stopped, and "that it might be left to the Queen to decide in this quarrel, namely, regarding the Waitara land, and as to my right to set up a king, as a means of redress for wrongs not settled by you, for the only wrongs you redressed were those against yourselves, as for all those over the breadth of the country you left them unsettled. What Maori is such a fool as to be mistaken about the supremacy of the Queen of England? or who would be such a fool as to throw himself away in fighting in such a cause. *No, it is for the land, for land from time immemorial down to the arrival of the Pakehas has been the cause of war in this island of ours.*" It is astonishing that dealing with such a high-spirited patriotic people, the authorities should have allowed themselves to be guided apparently by the extraordinary opinion expressed by Lord Grey "that the savage inhabitants of New Zealand have no right to property in land which they do not occupy, and which have remained unsubdued for the purposes of man"—an opinion of course given by that statesman in perfect ignorance of the habits, and peculiar phase of civilization obtaining amongst the aborigines of New Zealand, and without reflecting that the same argument might with greater force even be applied to the rights of the occupiers of great deer forests in Scotland, the cotton lords and shoddy aristocrats who now occupy for their own selfish amusement the lands once

tenanted by stalwart men, the pride and strength of their native country, forced by the consequences of our so termed high civilization to find new homes in distant regions of the globe.

The immediate cause of the late war, was as is well known in New Zealand at least, the determination of the Government, and a certain clique of settlers to get hold as Mr. Fox says, "of the fat and fertile fields of the Waitara, upon which they had long looked with longing eyes," and with such ill-disguised covetousness that Wiremu-kingi the Chief of that district of Taranaki had years previously addressed Governor FitzRoy in earnest expostulation—"Friend Governor, he exclaimed, the Waitara shall not be given to the Pakeha—not whilst I live—do you not love your land? England the land of your fathers, as we also love our father's land of the Waitara?"

The more the circumstances are considered, the more one feels convinced that Governor Gore-Brown was deceived and imposed upon by his advisers. Being himself unacquainted with the language of the natives, he was obliged to depend upon translations made by interested persons, otherwise it is not credible that a good and able man, anxious as he was to maintain the right, would not have been influenced by the speech of this same Wiremu-kingi at a meeting at which he was present, when Mr. Maclean as head of the Land-purchasing Department, or Government Land-Broker in chief, endeavoured to persuade the Chief to sanction the sale of a portion of his hereditary manor made by a man called Te-Teira.

"Listen Governor, said he, notwithstanding Teira's offer, I will not permit the sale of Waitara to the Pakeha. Waitara is in my hands, I will not give it up, ekore-ekore-ekore! I will not, I will not, I will not, I have spoken—Come, turning to his people, arise let us go." And without another word or look at the Governor or other Europeans he and his people left the Assembly.

Mr. Maclean knew well that the seemingly rude manner of his departure was not intended as an insult to His Excellency personally, but as an emphatic avowal of his determination to resist, and of his perfect contempt for Teira. In spite of this warning and of the remonstrances of other great chiefs such as Renata, who told him "that the Maori would not be daunted by his weakness, by his inferiority in the possession of the implements of war, or by the smallness of his Tribe, that he sees his land going, and will not sit still,"

the Governor yielding to the pressing solicitations of the white men headed by the then minister for native affairs, sent to the assembly by a section of the Taranaki settlers, made arrangements for the immediate occupation of this Waitara land, and surveyors were sent to measure it. The Maoris contented themselves at first with unarmed resistance to their proceedings, and opposed them by sending a party of old women to guard the land, the surveyor with his theodolite fell into the embrace of one of these old witches, as the Newspaper correspondent termed them: a reserve of men had certainly been posted near, but without arms in case of need, but the old women wanted no help, and proved too much for the surveyors, and they and their assistants were compelled to make an ignominious retreat, with the loss of some portion of their beards.

The irritation of the natives was not lessened by a manifesto issued soon after, in which the Government declared that Te-Teira's claim had been carefully investigated and declared to be good, that payment for the land had been made to him, and that it now belonged to the Queen. Again and again did the natives find the injustice being done to them, was said to be on account of Her Majesty, whom they were once inclined to worship in their hearts as a great unknown benefactress. With the insolence of vulgar people, the native Minister and his friends informed the Maoris that Tiera was a chief they found of equal rank as Wi-Kingi, a statement received by them with shouts of derision. You say replied Renata, because his genealogy has been published by you Pakehas, therefore he is a chief! What about his genealogy? would Wiremu-Kingi publish his genealogy? is it not known throughout the island amongst all tribes? He needs not to have his genealogy recounted—that is a thing for a common man to do never heard of before. I know this man Tiera, a fellow of little note; his name is Manuka, *i. e.* té tree, scrub and nothing more. Wiremu-Kingi is a great Rangatira heard of, and known by all tribes. Burke's Peerage would be little esteemed by the Maori.

But the Government chose to risk every thing for this six hundred acres at Waitara. Martial law was proclaimed, troops were sent up, and the first shots fired in this "unjust and unholy war," as it was designated in the Assembly by Dr. Featherston, Superintendent of the Province of Wellington, one of the honest old Statesmen of New Zealand, were fired by Europeans.

There seems to be no excuse for the rashness and folly of the

action taken by the Governor's advisers. Besides Wi-Kingi himself and Renata, other patriotic and hitherto friendly chiefs warned them of the consequences. Wiremu-Tamehana *anglice* William Thomson, the most powerful man perhaps in the country, and more of an Englishman than a Maori in his habits, a personal friend of the Governor and other gentlemen expressed himself in the figurative language of his countrymen—"Birds do not cry unless there be an enemy in sight, except indeed in the morning and evening. At day-break their song is heard, and in the evening, but not in the daytime unless some bird of prey appears, they sit quietly in the branches of the trees, and make no noise until they see the great bird the Eagle that comes to destroy them, then all cry out, large birds and small—there is a general cry." By and by as the danger appeared imminent he spoke plainly, "If the Governor says it is the land, I see through this also, but I do not speak of it, that is not a matter to be spoken of at this meeting, it is a hidden word that it is to be kept in the head, we intend to keep our lands, and if the Governor comes to take another piece after this there will be war." "You quote from Scripture, said Renata, that children should obey their parents, quote to the Governor the other portion of the same passage, Fathers provoke not your children to wrath."

Not only from the great Maori chiefs came earnest appeals to the justice and proper feelings of the Governor but from men of position also amongst the Europeans. The revered and learned Chief Justice, Sir William Martin, put the legal bearing of the matter in the strongest language. "No right of a British subject "is more dear and precious than this that the Executive Government shall not use the force at its command to oust any man from "his land, or deprive him of any right he claims until the question "between the Crown and the subject has been heard and determined by some competent tribunal, some tribunal perfectly independent of the Government; this is a fundamental principle of the "English Government. We the English subjects of our "Queen dislike nothing so much as to be intimidated into the "relinquishment of a right. Why should a Maori dislike it less? On "the contrary the pride and passion of the race, the patriotism of "each class has always centred on this point; to fight for their "land to resist encroachment even to death, this has been their "point of honor. A chief who would yield to intimidation in such "a case would be degraded in the eyes of the people. . . . : The

“ one question to be asked is this, was it lawful for the Govern-
 “ ment to take possession of the land by armed force ? There could
 “ be but one answer, It was NOT LAWFUL.” An influential Taranaki
 settler sent from the Province itself an urgent protest couched in
 form of a petition as follows :—“ It is with the deepest surprise
 “ and sorrow that your petitioner has heard that a resort to arms
 “ in order to enforce an alleged purchase of an insignificant block of
 “ land may be almost immediately expected. Your petitioner ad-
 “ visedly uses the word, alleged, as he cannot possibly believe that
 “ your Excellency’s Government would consider such a purchase as
 “ a de jurâ or even a de facto one, much less that they would
 “ attempt to take forcible possession of the block referred to, were
 “ they thoroughly cognizant of the real facts and circumstances
 “ Further it would seem that Tiera’s allegation of his
 “ own absolute interest, the allegation of one who has received
 “ British gold, and who believes that he will be backed by British
 “ bayonets, the allegation of one who has shown himself ready for
 “ the sake of lucre to destroy his own tribe, and his own race, and
 “ to plunge the whole country into unspeakable calamities, is to be
 “ accepted as final and conclusive so as to weigh down the testi-
 “ mony of the great majority of the Tribe who, unswayed by money,
 “ and unshaken by power, are prepared to seal their testimony
 “ with their blood. Here at present for various reasons too numer-
 “ ous to mention there is dead silence, no voice is raised at this the
 “ eleventh hour. Your petitioner has therefore attempted a feeble
 “ cry, but do not, let me beseech your Excellency, despise the cause
 “ on account of its feebleness, the informality or the temerity of its
 “ advocates ; the cause is a good and noble one ; it is not the cause
 “ of this or that individual, of this or that section of colonial society,
 “ but of humanity and justice.” The reasons alluded to by this
 gentleman were patent enough to disinterested on-lookers. The
 thought of the gold that would come to them from the Imperial
 Exchequer had its influence with many. The fat contracts, the pos-
 session of all these rich plains so long coveted was too tempting to
 others, whilst the village politicians were swelled with their in-
 creased importance and a militia Major foisted by the chances of
 colonial life into the position of a Minister of the Crown, could not
 but be dazzled with the idea of having some share in the ordering
 the movements of a Commander-in-Chief.

Major Nugent, an able and zealous officer, commanding in the

district, pointed out the peculiarly difficult nature of the Taranaki country for the operations of troops of the line, whilst it was most singularly favorable for the desultory style of native warfare; that a much larger force than Great Britain could spare for the whole colony of New Zealand would be insufficient for the protection of the settlers on their lands, "that in case of a collision between H. M.'s troops and the natives the Settlement would dwindle to a mere military post." Mr. Clarke, also one of the Commissioners for native affairs under McLean, spoke out boldly and in plain words, "the natives will never tamely give up what they consider their just rights if the Government is determined to put settlers in possession of the Waitara land, which we cannot convince the natives or ourselves honestly, that they have alienated, it must be done at the point of the bayonet."

The dying Wolsey said of his dread master, "that rather than miss or want any part of his will he will endanger the loss of half his realm;" so to compare small things with greater, mean actors with distinguished ones, the small-minded men in power at this time in New Zealand chose to risk the prosperity of the colony and the lives of the settlers rather than lose their salaries and abandon the position they had taken up. All remonstrance and warnings were in vain; the Ministers forced the Governor to adopt what they termed a vigorous policy, promising him that from most certain information in their possession, no outbreak would be caused by the forcible occupation of the Waitara with troops. Within a fortnight of their doing so, the complete truth of Major Nugent's* prognostication was shown. Fifteen hundred settlers had abandoned their homes to the torches of the Maori warriors, and the whole population of the Province was crowded within the fortifications of the little town of New Plymouth. The war, foretold as the consequence of the proceeding by Wiremu-Tamehana, commenced most inauspiciously for the whites. A most miserable war indeed. No wonder the military had little heart to fight in such a cause.

The extracts quoted from such authorities as the two consecutive Attorney Generals of the Colony, Mr. Swamson and Mr. Fox, are

* Major Nugent was too honest a man, and too active and outspoken an officer to succeed in New Zealand, by some manipulation whilst he was serving gallantly in the field with his Regiment, a junior officer employed comfortably in making a road near one of the principal towns obtained a Lieut.-Colonelcy over his head, and Her Majesty's Service lost a good and useful soldier, who retired in disgust.

sufficient to show the untruth of the often-reiterated assertion that the war was long determined upon by the Maoris who only sought a pretext for commencing disturbances, and was the natural result of the kin-gmovement. So far from this being the case, Mr. Fox stated in his place in council when Premier, "that the great national movement which has been seething in the native mind for years past, is not, as the Duke of Newcastle has been taught to think, based on a desire to get quit of British rule and British civilization; but we recognize in it the desire of the Native Race for self-elevation: we see in it an earnest longing for law and order and an attempt, not feeble or ill-directed had it only been encouraged and guided, to rise to a social equality with ourselves." But any such real advance was the last thing a certain class of New Zealand politicians desired.

To lower the native character, diminish the power of the chiefs, and eventually to carry out the plan of the head of the land-purchase department, render the Maoris as far as possible landless, was their scheme, persistently adhered to, and unfortunately now fast approaching completion. In a few years perhaps there will be few in New Zealand who know what the Maori really was, and what he was capable of in the days of his strength. Doctor Dieffenbach says truly 'the natives have invariably shown a far nobler sentiment of affection not only to their own country, but also to the European discoverer, and the early missionary colonists, than the imported race of shopkeepers, who pride themselves on their ignorance of every thing that belongs to the original inhabitants.'

Notwithstanding the deteriorating influence of his companionship with the class of Europeans he sees most of, the Maori has not lost his innate sense of self-respect. An instance of this occurred to Sir George Grey during the latter part of the war at Taranaki. A young chief, Bobirangi, came to him, and urged that a party of soldiers about to proceed to a place on the coast, should be detained, as they were sure to fall into an ambuscade. The station was not very far from the settlement of New Plymouth and the warning he gave was neglected, indeed the Governor said he did not believe a word about the danger. The men went and to their deaths. Sometime afterwards he met Bobirangi, and anxious to make him amends for the slight passed upon him invited him into his quarters to take a glass of wine with him. No Grey! replied the proud young chieftain, you said I told a lie, I will not take wine with you!

The Maori is naturally of a warm and affectionate disposition as seen in the everyday greeting of friends and relatives and in their Tangis, *i. e.* crying over the dead. The victor often displayed sincere affection towards the vanquished chief become his slave. The Waikatos subdued and carried off into slavery the greater number of the survivors of the Taranakis: sometimes in after years they permitted the old men to return after years passed as nominal if not actual servitors of their conquerors, to die on their ancestral lands. It was no uncommon thing afterwards to see a powerful Waikato chieftain come down with a strong body-guard to the west coast to Tangi, and lament over the grave of an old Taranaki warrior, to whom he had become attached whilst he dwelt with him as a slave, fire a volley over it and return. The Taranaki men on these occasions all went away, to prevent any collision or angry words, leaving only the old women to point out the exact spot of their last resting places.

Look at these cannibals making a fuss about a dead nigger! said a man in my hearing as a Maori was being decorously carried to his grave by his sorrowing friends and weeping relatives, the women walking two and two with green wreaths of a certain rare fern, the emblem of mourning, around their heads. The fellow came from that land, in one of whose daily papers this year appeared the following—"at the funeral of Mrs. Rose Gollaghay last week at Newry a quarrel took place about the property left; the coffin was put down upon the road, and the relatives fought for the cows and pigs; after the fight the coffin was lifted, but before it could reach the grave another fight took place, the priest fled terrified, and the corpse was ultimately buried without any religious ceremony.

The New Zealand branch of the Polynesian race, although so singularly fierce and fearless in war, are by no means the deliberately and systematically cruel people they are so commonly stigmatized as being by our countrymen, in whose own land was not long ago permitted the *peine forte et dure*, quartering quick, and the market places of whose towns have been the scenes of the slow roasting alive of tender women, children and old people, and of many other horrible barbarities practised during times of religious excitement by the different sects of Christians alike, upon heretics to their respective creeds. We forget the unpleasant features of what are facetiously called the good old times, but less than two centuries ago, the chief occupation of the Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland

was hunting up, and burning reputed witches alive; the pleasant old sport has lately been celebrated by a mimic performance at Balmoral. In the commencement of the last century, boys and girls under twelve years of age were tortured and put to death in some savage way or other for miraculously causing the death of cows and pigs. Three thousand persons were murdered in England as witches or wizards during the Session of the Long Parliament, and it is estimated that not less than thirty thousand people were cruelly tortured first, and then burned, hanged or racked to death under the statute of Henry VI., for the suppression of this *bête noir* of ignorant barbarians. What right have we to talk of savages? Kereopa's murder of the Rev. Mr. Volkner for which he was not long since executed, (having been taken and given up to the Government by the Arrawas for a reward of a thousand pounds under their Chief Ropata who holds Her Majesty's Commission as Major) appeared probably to him an excited fanatic, as meritorious a deed as John Knox considered burning a papist to be, and the revolting act he committed on the occasion may have been repugnant to himself, although he performed it in accordance with the time immemorial custom of Polynesian sacrifices, from which Pomare, the gentle Queen of Tahiti, derived the title of Aimatta or the Eye-eater.

To forgive is a word certainly unknown in the Maori's vocabulary. He has the same strong feelings in their utmost intensity which Sir Walter Scott attributes to the Highland chieftain, in the lines we repeat with emphasis as the expression of heroic patriotism:—

“ Through the depths of Loch Katrine the steed shall career
 O'er the peak of Ben-Lomond the galley shall steer
 And the rocks of Craig-Royston like icicles melt
 Ere our wrongs be forgot or our vengeance unfelt.”

It took a much longer time to change the habits of our own ancestors when first brought into contact with a more polished people, than it has done to induce the Maoris to adopt European customs, and to appreciate the value of education. The native chiefs set an example to many of the settlers in the care they take to have their children well educated, and in their willingness to pay liberally for the advantages they receive, and do not sympathize in the feeling that is so common amongst the lower classes in the colonies, that causes them to grumble at being obliged to pay anything for such objects, and now prompts the people of great wealth to propose far smaller remuneration to the instructors of their children than they would presume to offer their cooks. If a European gives a donation

towards building a church or school-house, he generally takes care to have it duly chronicled in the papers, if he is one of the millionaires, and gives a really large sum to build a college, he asks to be knighted, Renata the Hawke Bay chief gives about a thousand a year out of the rental of the lands left to him, to the schools in the Province, but no one hears anything about it. We cannot wonder at the feeling of disgust entertained by such men towards the grasping Pakeha, when they find that even in the matter of education, opportunity is taken to make the money voted, be of service to the hangers-on of the Government. A considerable sum being utterly wasted in paying a handsome salary to a redoubtable member of the Upper House of Legislature, the owner of tens of thousands of acres of land, as inspector of native schools who was as Renata objected unacquainted even with their language.

There is certainly a marvellous difference between the Te-Rauperaha of to-day, attired in velvet jacket of latest fashion, adorned with gold rings, chains and charms, driving his well-appointed vehicle and pair of well-matched horses down Paj-kakerika hill, and his grim old father, the celebrated Te-Rauperaha of Maori history, marching at the head of his braves, in his mat with his dreaded Meri in his hand along that same coast by the narrow war-path, on his way to invade the middle inland and literally eat up its inhabitants, outdoing in his treatment of the conquered foes their wives, and their little ones, the barbarities practised by the favorite Israelitish heroes of the Maoris, in olden time. It was a very imprudent thing in missionaries placing the Old Testament in its entirety in the hands of the natives. You know Solomon? said a chief to a clergyman who had been pointing out to him the impropriety of having so many wives. Solomon great king, good man, Solomon wrote the Proverbs? Yes Solomon wrote the Proverbs, he was a very wise man, a great king. Oh! how many wives Solomon, eh? Kapai Solomon!! well done Solomon.

When we observe the manner in which the chiefs who occupy positions of importance in the country as members of the Legislature, magistrates, assessors, &c., fulfil their duties, it is impossible not to be struck with the great natural capacity of the Maoris, and their readiness in adapting themselves to the customs and habits of the Europeans, like their cousins the Sandwich Islanders. With all their faults were I to become a settler in New Zealand I should prefer the brown man for my neighbours still, even deteriorated as

they are becoming as a race, to the majority of the rough whites, especially those chiefs who do not drive their carriages, do not play billiards at the hotels, but when you visit them are content to offer a warm Maori welcome, and food cooked in the ovens of hot stones as of yore, without preserved salmon and champagne or the singular compounds sold to them as such. The greater part of these people twenty years ago, were in a much happier position, and much less deserving of the appellations bestowed upon them, than the mass of our unfortunate countrymen in the 'Black Country' and some other parts of Great Britain, a paradise for the rich, a land of want and misery for millions, to tell them they live in Merrie England is indeed a bitter mockery. The Maoris do not kick their wives to death with iron clogs; as a race they are particularly kind to their women and children, who are companions and a pleasure to them, instead of being a burthen, and concern to feed, and so often separated as they are all day long are scarce known to their parents; they were industrious at that time, frugal in their habits and sober, few of the young men and women could not read and write, thanks to the old missionaries, presenting too in this respect a great contrast to the state of things in England, where as shown by the returns laid on the table of the House of Commons not one in fifty of those on the lists of the national schools can do either intelligibly. They were free then, secure from poverty; cannibalism and tribal wars had all but ceased, and they were without the incentives to crime, to which the bulk of English labourers are exposed, sunk too as they are below the code of morals, many races of those we term savages have established, having to work hard day after day from childhood till death to keep themselves from starving, whilst they see the few enjoying the extremest luxury. The Maoris acted in those days according to their natural good impulses, love of hospitality, and the sense of justice inherent in man, not having learned the lesson taught in our own father-land where the struggle for life makes men selfish and thankless, that to be generous and honest in this life, is to be pretty sure of disappointment and evil fortune. Those who have visited Japan will doubt very much which is the most civilised country in the world — if civilisation should ensure the greatest amount of comfort and happiness to the greatest number.

There are many villains amongst the aboriginals of New Zealand of course, as amongst all other peoples, unscrupulous vagabonds

who would think no more, in war time at least, of shooting an old Pakeha acquaintance from behind a flax bush, than a Connaught boy would of firing his blunderbuss at his indulgent Saxon landlady from the back of the hedge she had planted to shelter her murderer's garden. But there are many noble characters amongst them, Nature's gentlemen, who would scorn to express towards their enemies the cowardly sentiments heard so frequently from the lips of the white-men.—“Give them plenty of rum, let the Niggers kill themselves, the sooner they are all dead the better.”

It is well for them indeed that they were brave and warlike or they would long ago have been landless, and have met with the same fate as the aborigines of North and of Spanish America, Australia, &c., at the hands of the Pakeha who has proved his utter recklessness as to their future destiny, and comes to their country to make money and go away, or to acquire an estate which should he make his home, he desires to have none around whom he cannot in some measure command. Referring to the past history of the neighbouring colonies it will be found that when Sir George Gipps was sole ruler of Australasia, without responsible ministers, and having only the advice of Mr. E. D. Thomson, (whom Colonel Mundy calls the prince of colonial secretaries) the natives were jealously protected as far as possible, and the murderers of black fellows were consigned to the gallows. But upon the unfortunate aborigines of Australia, whom it has been so much the fashion to represent as a species of advanced gorilla, instead of being intelligent, quick of apprehension, and most faithful and attached servants, the atrocities perpetrated in later years have been fearful, in many districts especially of Northern Queensland, where deeds have been perpetrated under the eyes of the Government, which might bring a curse upon any community, in barbarity almost if not quite equalling the proceedings by which the unhappy Tasmanians were annihilated. After its separation from New South Wales then under the government of Sir William Denison, a man not less firm than Sir George Gipps, the management was handed over to an administrator without personal experience of uncivilized races, or of the rougher class of Anglo-Saxon colonists, Sir George Bowen. It was to him the letter upon the whole duties of Governors was addressed by Lord Lytton, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, and amongst his most particular injunctions, was the advice “to mark and study the idiosyncracies, of the community, every community has one particular to itself.”

Sir George no doubt found no difficulty in discovering the particular one of the Queensland people, especially of the mass of new occupiers of crown lands, many of them absentees represented by overseers, who began to crowd into the untrodden wildernesses of the new colony, men of a very different stamp from the old squatters, and learned quickly that it was not easy, indeed of little use attempting to obey the immediately following recommendation "to appeal to those feelings which are noblest." The cry was let the black savages perish, and the classical Governor had only to report *ὄλεοντο δε λαοί.*

The horses in the colonial coach were violent and unbroken and ran away with it being totally beyond the control of the person who held the reins as first colonial secretary under responsible government; a young man, without experience of any kind, anxious to gain popularity with the mob, and too self-sufficient and arrogant to listen to, or take advice from the gentlemen who originally settled the country and under whose direction its affairs had hitherto been quietly conducted. Well might Mr. Herman Merivale say "the present age is rich beyond precedent in such enormities." It was the transactions in Queensland that were the subject of so much attention and indignant commentary at the time that gentleman published the second edition of his lectures on colonization delivered at Oxford, in one of which he alludes "to the ferocity and treachery of civilized man too often of civilized governments" in their relations with savages. But "the tardy attempts of the Governments of America, the Cape, and Australia to repair the acknowledged crime" referred to by this eminent political economist, have not as far as can be seen, yet extended to Queensland, where the wretched aborigines were handed over to the tender mercies of the black police and the stockmen. Mr. Merivale did not find himself able to modify his expressions on this, as on some other matters, but had to add an indignant protest against the course pursued with respect "to the decaying noble race of the Maori."

The Vales of the North island are many of them fertile and inviting, and although their owners could not be swept of the face of the earth in the same wholesale and easy way as the Australians, the Government and the settlers have done fairly well in obtaining possession of them by one means and another, but they have not dared to do quite as much as they would have liked in the way of

annexation, and as they long ago would have done but for the attitude of far-seeing patriotic chiefs like Wiremu-Tamehana, Rewi, Renata, &c., and the consequences which followed their determined resistance of the attempted spoliation. But the battle in the end is to the strong and ever-increasing army of Pakehas, more land is acquired daily, bought by way of, and the deeds of cession are sometimes couched in affecting language "under the bright sun on this day of sale, I have wept over, and bidden adieu to the territory I hereby cede to the Queen," added one Maori chief before he affixed his signature along with others to the document alienating the loved lands of his fathers; little knows Her Majesty of the villainies perpetrated in her name held sacred by the Maoris, by men acting ostensibly as her servants.

Probably ere long the belief that it is fated so to be, will spread into the hitherto jealously guarded king's country, taking advantage of which feeling the land-purchasing agents of the Government have wrought upon the natives so successfully as to obtain many millions of acres in one year. King Tawhiao, himself and his hitherto loyal chiefs, their brains gradually destroyed by alcohol will come some day and drink champagne with the Governor or Mr. Maclean whose policy will be applauded accordingly by those who care nought for the consequences to the Maori who is a thorough fatalist. He makes up his mind that he is going to die, draws his cloak around him, sits down in his wharré and the physician's efforts are vain, he dies. The aborigines of New Zealand have made up their minds that they are doomed soon to pass away, as the birds and other indigenous creatures and plants do before the foreign invaders, and think perhaps that it is just as well to eat, drink, and enjoy to-day—the rulers of the country shut their eyes to the fact that the six-pence or shilling an acre given for hundreds of thousands of acres at a time is mostly spent in poisonous spirits, and that each sale diminishes the number of the sellers. If care were taken even that all fire-water sold to these unfortunate people was properly inspected it would be well. But that is not in accordance with the "spirit of the Till" which governs their policy, and decoctions of nicotine and blue-stone do their business quickly. No one can read Mr. Wallace's interesting work on the Malay Archipelago without feeling the utmost confidence in his statements, and the greatest respect for the opinions of this earnest thinker, and acute observer, whose expressions about the Jesuit missionaries one may well place against those of the author of "South Sea Bubbles" alluding to the ex-

cellent administration of the Dutch "a Government respected every where by the natives of Sumatra, Java and adjacent island countries," he contrasts it with "our own system which has always failed, we DEMORALIZE AND EXTIRPATE but we never really civilize, desolation goes before us and civilization lags slowly and lamely behind. The inhabitants of Celebes so lately as 1822 were sunk in the depths of barbarism and were reputed cannibals, the change that has been accomplished there, the order and comfort in which the natives live around Menado, the pleasing sights which there meet the eye would have all been unknown, had that country been subjected to an antipodean policy, and instead of increasing in numbers, and improving in every respect, their fate would have been sealed as that of the unfortunate Maoris.

Some people talk much of the half-castes as a race likely to become influential, but that is doubtful. They are fine, handsome people, but their children are weak and short-lived, very liable to consumption; they are too, like the progeny of dark aboriginal mothers and European fathers generally, uncertain, and given to inherit the least desirable qualities of both races. As in Samoa, Tonga, Tahiti and the Sandwich islands, and indeed all places where this same Polynesian race is found, they are proudest of their maternal descent; as is most natural their sympathies are all with their mother's people, and in every respect they have good reason for feeling as they do. On that side they come from one of the most distinct, pure, and most ancient races of men—who these noble-looking brown men are, where their original home will never be known now—but those who have seen much of them, before their intercourse with Europeans, will deem them one of the finest types of the human race.

On the whole it will be concluded that in so far as its inhabitants are concerned, New Zealand is not exactly the most delightful place in the world to make a home in at present, especially as in its haste to grow rich and populous, crowding out thereby the aboriginal lords of the soil by force of numbers, it is being flooded with the very lowest class of Europeans from all countries, bringing more examples of bad to the Natives, and most probably contagious diseases which will decimate them, and render their extermination more speedily completed. "The word of the Maori, Ahi-na-maui or the land of the god Maui, for the Maori" is vain; despite the report presented by Mr. Maclean himself to the Council in 1860, "that the Natives

were smarting under wrongs arising from land selling" the Government agents are rapidly securing their remaining territories, and then landless wanderers, no longer self-respecting, fire-water will do the rest.

So far as other matters are concerned, things will settle down bye and bye, and twenty years hence it may be much pleasanter than it is now. In fifty, possibly less, it may be a country of very prominent importance and influence, especially if the fair island countries of the Pacific should become settled by Europeans as Fiji is being now, and the trade flow to Auckland instead of Sydney as it might do to a considerable extent by the legitimate enterprise of the colonial merchants. Possibly it may indeed become the most influential of all the Australasian States, taking them separately, as divided now, for although its progress may be retarded by bad government and monetary difficulties brought upon it by political charlatans, its resources are great and varied and these evils will only temporarily arrest it. But these observations are intended for the consideration of those who cannot look forward to the years after A. D. 1900.

PART III.

NEW ZEALAND

ITS

ATTRactions AND DRAWBACKS.

It should be borne in mind by intending emigrants, that the prosperity of these islands or at least of certain portions of them may when little expected be seriously interfered with by causes beyond the power of Legislators to avert. I merely say may be, but Mr. Darwin in the same most charming narrative of the Voyage of the *Beagle* remarks, "Earthquakes alone are sufficient "to destroy the prosperity of any country, a bad earthquake "destroys our oldest associations in one moment of time."

A recent visitor to San Francisco had been shown all that was most interesting in that place by an old acquaintance, who remarked one day, in a somewhat querulous tone, that he had not experienced one of their earthquakes. Returning soon after however from the theatre with his friend, he had an opportunity of trying this to him—new sensational excitement—conscious of utter sobriety, the pavement suddenly appeared to grow unstable, and the tall houses to waver unsteadily on their foundations, and they were fain to stop, and hold on by the iron railings, but it was a slight shock, and the San Francisco friend shrugging his shoulders, moved on, merely remarking in a disgusted way, 'Pretty Mean Earthquake.' The tremblements de terre which have occurred in various parts of New Zealand within the last twenty years, could scarcely be designated 'Mean Earthquakes.' The bravest natures succumb under excessive sea-sickness, and the effects of violent earth-sickness upon the human frame as well as upon the lower animals are still more utterly paralysing. Under this influence perhaps Governor Eyre came to somewhat too hasty a conclusion, but no one who has read the account of that gentleman's journey across the Australian deserts, or who is acquainted with his conduct in Jamaica, will attribute to him a want of presence of mind, or imagine that any lack of courage was the cause of his writing the despatch recommending the abandonment of Wellington as the site of a principal settlement.

The level ground there is of such limited area, that the inhabitants are now forced to build upon land they reclaim from the harbour. Some day, it may happen that a subsidence of eight or ten feet may take place, instead of an elevation to a similar extent, as occurred there in 1855, and the shaken-down edifices with their

occupants may be swept away by a high wave. People will cease then to laugh at Mr. Eyre's warning, and instead of assigning it to pusillanimity, deem it to have been the wise conclusion of a thoughtful man, that whilst the place was still in its infancy, and vested interests were of no great consequence, it would be better for the Government not to foster the building of a town in a situation inferior to many others in the islands, and evidently near a focus of subterranean disturbance, such as Talcahuano and Concepcion, and other places on the Sub-Andes coasts; often threatened, and destroyed at last in a single minute of time, when Mr. Darwin was in the neighbourhood. He was at Valdivia on the day of that great earthquake, a place some distance to the south, when the rocking of the ground was also severe, and mentions particularly that in the forest although he felt the trembling of the earth, he saw no other effect.

In Hawke Bay district during 1862 there were many earthquakes, indeed the few inhabitants then in that province, had no rest from alarms for months, although little was heard of their experiences at a distance. At a place called Te-Aute, 30 miles inland, the shocks were especially violent and at times the scene was enough to appal the stoutest-hearted, as admitted by an eye-witness, whose personal courage and coolness had often been conspicuous during the war. It was indeed awful he said, to hear again and again, the underground thunder approaching, sometimes with a series of detonations like a cannonade, at others like the sound of long trains of heavy railway waggons passing near, and as the ground rose and sank, to see the lofty trees in the forest surging and bending with loud groanings, and clouds of dust rising, the large decayed ones falling, and great masses of rocks detached from the summits of the hills crashing down through the woods in one place to a lake, which was violently agitated, and "swished about" leaving large areas of the bottom dry alternately, as the waters rushed from one side to another, whilst the air was loaded with mephitic gases rising from the cracks and fissures opening and closing again around. From the startling effect upon the forest, these shocks must have been more severe than the ones which did so much damage at Valdivia on the occasion referred to. One can imagine what destruction would have been chronicled, had there been any towns then in that neighbourhood, or had the railway now in course of construction been made, as the saltatory

motion was accompanied by a gyratory one, that would have destroyed most bridges. Below this elevated country lie the dreary but rich plains of Karanu, Meannee, and Clive, which a depression of a very few feet would submerge or render swamps. The buyers of land there, at twenty and thirty pounds an acre, are few of them aware of the appearance they presented then, as of a mere crust seemingly over subterranean reservoirs of pitchy waters, and fetid mud which jetted up from opening fissures, or welled up in great bubbles, which burst darting forth eddies of poisonous vapours. The country around Napier has rested since in comparative tranquillity, so for ages had that known as the Runn of Cutch, until it went down twenty feet suddenly during the earthquakes of 1819 in Scinde. The New Zealand people build no castles, no cathedrals, the tops of whose towers standing for a time above the waters, like the fort of Sindree, might mark where lay the "splendid" town allotments purchased at such absurd prices by the speculators of the day, regardless of the suggestive features of what they have oddly enough called Scinde island, and its surrounding salt marshes, warning them that what has been, may be again. Centuries may possibly pass, large cities may rise up in these places, and the memories even of such disturbances as have occurred since the islands have been occupied by Europeans, may have faded away ere any great catastrophe takes place, but at the same time it is just as possible one may do so to-morrow. Persons of a nervous temperament may as well bear the possibility in mind, and when building their houses in Maori-land, recollect that it will be prudent to construct them of wood, instead of brick, adobes or cob; otherwise on some stormy night when it tumbles down should they be lucky enough to escape, they may find themselves in the situation a lady did with her children at a place on the coast some eighty miles from Napier, amidst the darkness and torrents of rain driven by the violent gusts of a winter gale, crawling upon hands and knees along the ground quivering and rising and falling like the waves of the sea, to reach the lights flickering in the windows of a neighbour's dwelling a hundred yards or two distant which being well built of wood, at last gave shelter to the terrified creatures after a weary contention with the terrestrial billows.

To those who have not tried it, the experience may seem an interesting and novel excitement worth knowing; but few persons care a second time to lose confidence in their mother earth, and hear it

roaring, to see great rents forty miles in length opening in its surface, as on the south side of Cook's Straits in 1855, or to watch the hills nodding to each other as the settlers in the Wairarapa district, and the Hutt valley near Wellington did during the earthquakes of that year. That all is not stable and quiet the Colonists are constantly reminded by the still active Volcanos, the wonderful assemblage of Geysers, hot springs, &c., in the North island, and the frequent occurrence of what the facetious San Franciscan called 'Mean Earthquake.'

The following is the list of shocks experienced in the islands during the last three years:—

1870.		1872.		1873.	
11	...	9	...	12	Wellington.
3	...	5	...	23	Whanganui.
1	...	2	...	3	Taranaki.
4	...	4	...	6	Nelson.
2	...	4	...	1	Queenstown Otago.
2	...	1	...		Dunedin.
2	...	0	...	1	Christ Church.
2	...	1	...		Taupo.
1	...	2	...	1	Napier.

A considerable number of these are recorded in the Meteorological report as "smart shocks," but the majority were mere tremors. It will be observed that Wellington has at all events pre-eminence in this source of excitement, if it is denied other attractions. Whanganui, another town of the same Province, appears to have been much troubled in 1873, eight of the shocks being "smart" ones.

There are many discomforts at present in life in the Bush in New Zealand. The Bush in colonial parlance means everywhere out of the towns; the bleak plains of Canterbury and dreary uplands of Otago destitute of all vegetation save coarse tussock grass, luckily good for sheep, and a dwarf thorny shrub, are called the bush, as well as the impenetrable forests of lofty trees, interlaced with supple-jacks, and dense undergrowth which cover the western portions of both islands. Pre-eminent amongst the disagreeables is the want of servants. In America, the settlers generally can get 'helps' of some description, but in many parts of New Zealand, especially in the North island helps are not to be obtained upon any terms, especially female ones. Speaking generally there is no country through which I have ever travelled, where domestic comfort is so little known, where one gets less for one's money and

where ladies are exposed to such spirit-breaking, and health-destroying hardships. It has one recommendation, there are no destructive indigenous animals to kill the stock, or endanger life, no snakes getting under pillows, or coiling themselves in chignons, or scorpions hiding themselves in one's boots. The Katipo, a small spider is the only venomous creature of note, and it is rare, and confined to certain localities fortunately, for small though it be, its bite is as bad, if not worse than the scorpion's sting in its consequences, causing paralysis in grown people, and death in children. 'Eothen' Kinglake is eloquent upon the respective merits of the fleas of various lands. They are abundant enough in New Zealand, the sands in places swarm with them, and they deserve a high place in his catalogue being ubiquitous, relentless, and especially hating the Pakeha. I have had opportunities of testing the comparative prowess of mosquitoes in many countries, in tropical ones, where each hour of the night has as Humboldt describes, its own armies coming up to the attack, and life is rendered not much worth having, in consequence of the misery caused by them. On the banks of the Canadian rivers and lakes, they know what they are about, but for fierceness of onslaught and indomitable perseverance, few merit greater commendation than the black warriors in the wooded and swampy districts of the North Island, it is no use covering even your head over with your blanket when camping out in a warm summer night, they will manage to get at you somehow, and those as in the ferny plains near the sea, the myriads of sand flies give little peace to man or beast during the day. The wood-cutters in the forests frequently look as if recovering from severe small-pox from the effects of the bites of these small pests.

The climate has always been the grand point insisted upon by emigration agents and others in their books, in which New Zealand excels all other countries in the world. This is sheer nonsense—and is not a bit more true than the astounding statement of Sir Charles Dilke, "that the terrible results of the plentiful possession of that Devil's agent, the Banana tree are seen in New Zealand." Bunches of plantains can be bought in the market at Auckland at a moderate price by those who are able to afford such luxuries when the Mail steamers arrive once a month from the Fiji Islands, but few inhabitants of Maori-land have ever seen this beautiful plant growing, and fewer have ever tasted its fruit—

and it may be observed that fruits of all kinds are generally poor and scarce with the exception of common peaches, and the smaller kinds belonging to cold countries, gooseberries, currants, and the like, except in one or two isolated sheltered localities such as Nelson, Turanganui plain, and Mongoni in the north; the latter may prove to be a fair vine-growing district.

Stretching as the islands do through more than thirteen degrees of latitude open to the blasts from the Antarctic Ocean, and intersected in great part by a chain of mountains covered with eternal snows, and the most extensive glaciers known almost out of Polar regions, there are many climates between Stuart's island and the North Cape, all nearly as a rule exceedingly changeable. Some provinces as Canterbury and Hawke Bay have a dry one. On the plains of the former the annual rain-fall is only about twenty-five inches. On the opposite coast at Hokitika, the chief town of Westland, about a hundred miles distant as the crow flies, one hundred and thirty inches may be taken as the average annual allowance. The hot dry winds which sweep over the Canterbury levels, and in a lesser degree over those of Hawke Bay, are withering and depressing in their effects as the sirocco in Malta or southern Spain or the fierce blasts that come over the vast deserts of the interior, and blight all living things on the Australian plains; whilst the frosts and snow storms of the plateaus of Otago and other places in the middle island render the care of their nose and extremities as necessary to travellers as in Canada nearly. So many people suffered from ignorance of the proper treatment in cases of frost-bite, that directions were published in the *Canterbury Government Gazette*. The term boisterous may be applied generally to the climate of these islands, and as to the suddenness of the changes of temperature, Archdeacon Paul says, speaking of Canterbury particularly, "the climate is a mixture of that of the south of France and of the Shetland islands, when the weather is fine, I have never seen brighter skies, or basked in more glorious sunshine even in Italy or Portugal, but when a south-wester or drizzling south-east wind sets in, I can hardly conceive anything more dreary and comfortless, and to this we are liable at all seasons of the year, so that summer may be turned into winter in a few minutes." People are not indeed liable in all parts of the country to be killed as happened the story goes, to a way-farer in Wellington by a whale-boat drifting round a corner, but generally in the islands although it may not blow

harder than it does sometimes on the coasts of England, it blows much oftener. Wellington is an exceptional place, Cook's Straits being a funnel through which the gales blow with terrific force. To these blustering winds it is due that many places are comparatively healthy, which otherwise would be very much the reverse such as Christ-church and Wellington, where from the badness of the drainage notwithstanding their influence, fevers are very prevalent, and in the former particularly, diphtheria causes great mortality amongst children. In Canterbury the death-rate amongst young persons is very high, being one in every hundred and twenty—in Taranaki amongst those of similar ages it is one in every three hundred. Rheumatism and neuralgia are very common complaints all over the colony, due perhaps to the want of electric storms—thunder is rarely heard on the plains, and indeed generally throughout New Zealand is not a common occurrence.

On the whole, however, although it is by no means deserving of the encomiums so lavishly bestowed upon it, there is no objection particularly to the climate on the score of salubrity—the three-score and ten years are not likely to be exceeded by a larger proportion of persons however there than elsewhere; now that population has increased and there are people to die it is found that the death-rate is equal if not greater than in the Australian colonies generally. The plains of Canterbury, unpleasant as they are to live upon on account of the blustering irritating winds, are healthy, but notwithstanding ladies' complexions suffer and are blighted as the gardener's hopes by the fierce north-westerns. Nelson, although it has its "spout wind" possesses generally a happy freedom from destructive gales, and is a pretty little place where the possessor of a few hundreds a year may dream away life in seclusion from the world amongst the hop gardens and apple orchards. The shores of the Bay of Plenty, and of the Bay of Islands and other places in the north, and the basin of the Waikato river are blessed with advantages as to climate as great as those of many spots famed in this respect; and fair Taranaki the garden of New Zealand, as its denizens love to call it, has despite the blasts which rush at times down the sides of its beautiful mountain, tossing into wild confusion the fronds of the forests of tree ferns which clothe the lower slopes, enjoys generally a most genial atmosphere. In a word the climate is good enough on the whole, and in some districts all that can be desired. Unless it were the "Genteel people" for whom one of the

New Zealand hand-books says it is the most desirable place on earth, few persons would come from home to vegetate in a colonial town, where life is most uninteresting, where the same hum-drum routine of existence has to be gone through, as in a dull country one at home, the same tea-parties with the gossip and cicalata of the street corners, the same, only worse executed generally ‘*amor mias* and *tanti palpitis* of such occasions’ every thing is repeated in a more wearying fashion—it is all very well the poets dream “*Beati illi procul qui negotiis;*” but it is as well to be where one can sometimes go and hear the roar of the torrent, than be perpetually surrounded by the utter stagnation of the swamp, “things” are so very little in the colonial towns, there is nothing to improve the mind in such places; to live there is to be condemned to intellectual death, and there are no amusements worthy of the designation: so I will merely say that the situation of Auckland is beautiful there as at Nelson and Taranaki the eye at least is pleased, as for the other provincial capitals they have few recommendations, and Wellington the present seat of Government as the “Challenger’s” people found it, is a very odious place.

Dunedin is a well-built and well-situated town, but the bitter blasts which in winter sweep the driving sleet, and in summer the dust along its Princes’ street, and George street, will serve to keep the emigrant from the ancient city by the Forth, in lively remembrance of the most disagreeable features of his former home. Otago, of which it is the bustling capital, was originally settled by an inferior class of Caledonians chiefly from Glasgow and Paisley, and of the Free Kirk persuasion, rough, grasping, and bigoted to a degree scarce credible, unless one has chanced to have been in Invercargil, a town in the extreme south, and heard one of their preachers holding forth to his sympathising followers upon the sin of permitting any one to come and possess the land in that country, but people of their own chosen sect, the ‘only future inhabitants of Heaven’—as for all others, even his own countrymen of the established Church of Scotland he cries out, *awa with them!* *awa with them!* with such emphasis, that he makes one feel that could faggots be obtained on the desolate treeless plains of the upper regions, to consume the wretched heretics in the dreary gold-digging townships, he would willingly apply the torch to light the *Auto-da-fé*, and would no doubt equally readily lead on his congregation to the plunder of the gold obtained by the poor diggers with toilsome labour, standing up to their middle in the icy waters of these bleak regions. Of course

they could not arrest the tide of emigration from all quarters, and of all classes, that poured into the Province when gold was discovered, but still the low Scotch element is predominant, not the class of honest Scotchmen who live amongst its hills, but the peculiar newly developed one found in the modern manufacturing towns, the names of the Caledonian mountains and rivers have with the bad taste that might have been expected replaced the native ones. Dunedin has its Moray Place of course, and water of Leith, and a lock of Burn's hair is placed side by side with the feathers of the Moa in its museum. But woe betide the visitor to that institution who judging from the touching memento, thinks he is amongst simple people such as were contemporaneous with the great birds. He will be in danger of learning a very hard lesson. Very few Scottish gentlemen ventured to cast their lot there amongst their rough countrymen in the earlier days of the settlement, otherwise Otago might have gained a pleasanter reputation than it possessed, and the peculiar proceedings for which it became notorious would not have taken place. No run-holder was formerly safe who chanced to offend the Provincial rulers or his friends; it is said, he was sure to have his station proclaimed a reserve, and *vice versâ* lands which ought to have been open to the public, were held by special favorites. The Provincial Superintendents as they are termed, and the Provincial Councils have done odd things often in New Zealand in the way of legislation, but the Superintendent of Otago eclipsed them all in the manner in which he availed himself of his powers; at that time the seat of Government being at Auckland, communication with Dunedin would be accomplished most speedily by going round by London, and he was able pretty much to do as he thought fit as the following incident shows. A young man from home had been sent out to his care, and his money placed in his hands for a time, until he had acquired some colonial experience as the phrase goes: when it expired and he wished to get it, in order to commence some undertaking, he applied repeatedly in vain, and was at length driven to have recourse to legal proceedings, and got a judgment against his Honor, a most futile proceeding! When the officer went to put it in force, and convey him in default of payment to gaol, he found himself check-mated in an unexpected manner, a supplementary *Provincial Gazette* had been issued, His Honor the Superintendent's house was proclaimed a Debtor's prison, and he had signified that it was his pleasure to appoint himself keeper thereof. It was a cry to Lochow, the thousands were convenient, and might be

doubled meantime. There was not the excuse that there was no institution of the kind existing in his Capital; on the contrary by all accounts it afforded so much superior accommodation and shelter than was easily to be obtained elsewhere, the difficulty was to keep people out. During the races on one occasion the Gaoler knew he could not prevent his prisoners leaving their work, and going there if they were bent upon doing so, and gave them permission to go to the course, but threatened them with the penalty of no supper and no bed if they were not back by a certain hour. All returned punctually but one, and he was a captive of some note, so the guardian called out "here Dougal ma mon, rise and fetch Donald or tell him I'll steek the yett;" so Dougal went and brought his friend up breathless with haste. This Donald was waiting his trial on a capital charge, but to be shut out on a cold winter night was no joke, and to attempt an escape into the wilds of Otago, a risk not to be run even in his situation.

And now to come to the most important question for the intending emigrant, for many would put up with all other drawbacks to the country, if that could be answered satisfactorily, is New Zealand a place for an educated man,—a poor gentleman with a family to go to in order to better his position? I answer no, without any hesitation, not as things are at present, unless circumstances should occur to make a small capital serviceable it is the most hopeless place imaginable. It is a hard thing to go into the wilderness and subdue it in any country. Mr. Herman Merivale is correct in terming "the wilderness of New Zealand a most impracticable one, the "North island being either forest country, or overgrown with the "native ferns even more difficult and costly of extirpation than the "forest itself." In no book that I have met with, except this gentleman's excellent lectures, is any allusion made to this most serious difficulty in the way of the new settler, nor to the ruinous devastation constantly caused by the armies of caterpillars, especially in newly cleared fern lands near a forest: it is no uncommon thing to see a hundred acres of young grass utterly destroyed in a week, eaten out by the roots, or a field of wheat or oats demolished in a day or two by this scourge. Grasshoppers are also nearly as formidable a pest as in the American prairie countries. Those who talk about the lovely ferny downs of New Zealand have little idea that this interesting plant in great part of the country, forms an impenetrable jungle eight or ten feet high with stems like walking canes, for which they

well serve. It is cut and then burned, the ground ploughed and sown with grasses, but in the light soils it comes up again yearly, has to be mown, and then burned in the swathe, but these repeated burnings are most injurious to the top soil, the only method of keeping it down is by pasturing heavily with young cattle, without any regard to their own growth. They eat the young shoots as they spring, but this process is one altogether beyond the means of beginners with small capital. In Canada forest lands cost 4s. to 5s. an acre on credit, and the expense of clearing may be put at £5 on the average. The fern lands of New Zealand cost much more to bring into thorough order, except on the East Coast, where in some districts there being much lime in the soil, grasses flourish, especially Rye, which grows so luxuriantly that it actually kills the fern: but there sheep and other animals suffer from ergot, which under the mild winter threatens to become a more formidable evil than many dream of. Such lands too cost on the Ahuriri and Poverty Bay plains ten pounds to fifteen pounds an acre. The Government price for raw fern lands on the West Coast is £2 to £3 per acre, but being put up to auction, in good situations they bring generally much more, and must be paid for cash down. The majority of emigrants to New Zealand, accustomed to regard lands with English notions as to value, in a country where such possessions have become a luxury for the wealthy, are inclined to discount the far future much too liberally and forget that in a new country the first consideration is that they will produce a return to the present generation. Rich forest land though it seems more formidable in appearance is much safer for a working man with small means to commence with; as the price is much lower, and when cleared it is more productive. On the west-coast of the north islands, all around the base of Mount Egmont, cock's-foot grass thrives so well, that in two seasons, the crop of seed from newly cleared lands, or rather half-cleared, the trees being merely felled and burned, pays nearly for the land itself, as well as for the rough clearing required, and the cheapness of fencing in such situations is a matter of great importance, for this is a very serious difficulty often in the way of the beginner in most districts, where materials have to be brought at great expense a long distance. The New Zealand timber is not durable with the exception of puriri or iron wood, which is confined to limited localities; other fences are consequently often adopted, such as gorse which is most objectionable; whole districts are ruined by jungles of impenetrable gorse, that would delight a fox-hunter's

eye. Many a young settler has been ruined by bad fences. If he purchases a ready-made farm without sufficient care, he will find himself attacked at once by all his new neighbours, his imperfect fences knocked down, his stock driven off to pound, or he has all their cattle to feed, or perhaps is beset with actions for damages: the "new Chum" in the elegant phraseology of the country is deemed fair game for all—at a place called Rangitiki, a farm was pointed out to me, which for a short space had belonged to an unfortunate gentleman from England, too unsuspecting and easy for New Zealand, who after sinking a considerable fortune in the purchase of the property from a Wellington storekeeper, left the colony in two years a ruined man, literally eaten up and ruined by actions for trespass brought by his neighbours, who had not dared to attack the rich store-keeper in the same way. It is a hard country for a gentleman to get on in, the word being used in the sense Francis Ist of France gave emphasis to, when seeing his courtier's faces wear an expression of doubt about an assertion he made "foi de roi," quickly added 'foi de gentilhomme,' the mass of people in New Zealand have no idea of the instincts of a gentleman, the most unscrupulous as a rule are the most successful.

There is no country however probably in the wide world, unless perhaps Victoria, where large fortunes have been made more easily and with less exercise of the brain. Men who had not an idea beyond the weight of a sheep's fleece or tallow, who took up large squattages, (or more commonly the case with the fortunate ones, like the rough Scotch shepherds who own great part of that colony), bought them cheap in bad times from the pioneers of Canterbury and Otago had nothing to do but to sit still, and if they were free from merchants or money-lenders' accounts balanced every three months with compound interest and mysterious charges for commissions, &c., could not avoid success. These countries were so singularly well adapted to the operations of the squatter, covered with natural grasses especially suited for merino sheep, easy of access, not subject to droughts or infested with dingos like Australia, no natives to interfere with their quiet possession, a few or no shepherds were required. Those also who bought up the equally good pasture lands of Marlborough and Nelson, from the short-sighted provincial authorities, in large blocks at a few shillings per acre, where likewise there were no difficulties to contend with of any consequence, no forests or ferns to clear, as well as the people who

got large territories in Hawke Bay for a puggaree from the natives, found themselves suddenly rich men when the rise took place a few years ago in the value of such estates ; chances may come again, some day, such as were presented to people with a few thousand pounds in 1870 and 1871, when properties were recklessly sacrificed by the mortgagees, offering such wonderful opportunities for new men making fortunes. One hears of a certain Cræsus descended from people elevated above their fellows in a manner unfortunate for themselves, however advantageous to the community, who was known in his own colony by a soubriquet more expressive than complimentary, and speculated largely at that time in New Zealand stations, securing enormous tracts of country with hundreds of thousands of sheep for an outlay of about the same amount as immediately came in as their annual return—a great loss to the Colony, the immense income being of course expended in England as is the custom of the majority of the Colonial nouveaux riches. This fortune will probably enable its possessor to become enrolled amongst the motley crowd of knights of the peculiar order of St. Michael and St. George.

It would not be a bad idea to put a certain number of C. M. G.'s and K. C.M.G.'s up to auction every year, for the benefit of the charitable institutions. Those ingenious people who advertize arms found and emblazoned must be sorely exercised to discover suitable Totems and mottoes for this new order of Nobility. Some of them amuse themselves at the expense of their employers, as the sarcastic Herald who gave one of these magnates for his coat armour, a very suspicious-looking tree, with the canting motto of 'couper fait grandir'—which appears to have reference to a story not told in old French History, but to one related in the "Felonry of Australia." Were the wives of these knights styled by the designation of Dame which they are alone entitled to, it would be most desirable, as it might tend to do away with this "Ladyship" nuisance, as it is felt in the colonies to be. Their ignorance is so great that these quondam cooks and butchers' daughters who now enjoy this prefix, really imagine themselves to be on terms of social equality with ladies of birth and high rank, whose nominal title is so absurdly the same. They could not comprehend the agitation of the horrified usher, who exclaimed, 'Oh don't kiss her your Royal Highness ! Don't kiss her !! she is not a real Lady !!!' when he saw his deaf old Mistress, Princess Amelia about to salute the wife of a City knight, thinking she was a

person of consideration. The wives of Judges and Knights of the Bath should alone be so styled.

As beforementioned it is extremely improbable that such facilities for acquiring rapid fortunes will occur again in the Colonies. Properties will scarcely again be so ruthlessly sacrificed by interested or stupidly short-sighted money-lenders to the ruin of the old settlers and the making of new men, because the millions that have been poured into the pockets of the Australian and New Zealand sheep farmers during the late years of plenty, have placed the majority in a very different position from that ever enjoyed by them as a class before—and the days are gone by, when a small capital can be safely invested—to give even the means of living.

There are many fathers and husbands, many tenderly brought up ladies, who would cheerfully resign the comforts of home, even in their advanced years, and brave the rough life in a Colony like New Zealand—make up their minds to brush their own boots, saddle their own horses, cook their own food, milk their cows, and hardest of all, to those unused to such things, wash their own cloths, could they be assured that with limited means, by industry and economy, they would be tolerably certain in the end, of securing an independence, and making some provision for their children. To such I say, go to Australia, and try sheep-farming on a free selection, or wheat-growing in that certainly rather hot and dry but otherwise most satisfactory and respectable colony, South Australia. Wine-growing, or silk-worm rearing on the Murray river, are occupations which have a charm to many, although neither are very safe pursuits to risk a small capital in, at all events for the unexperienced. If tropical heat is not an objection, cotton or still better sugar growing in Queensland, Fiji, or some other of the South Sea islands may be thought of—try Natal or British Caffraria where labour is cheap such as it is, Canada, Virginia or the Western States of America, Oregon or Colorado, anywhere almost, rather than New Zealand, where poverty in the man who cannot dig or plough, is as unpardonable a crime as having typhus fever in Erehwon. In these islands the Britain of the South,— ‘ a comical kind of Britian this, Sir! a Yankee Coachman observed,—you will receive not the slightest assistance from the Government in settling upon the Crown lands, for which a high price must be paid cash down, and very little, if hindrance even is not met with from your neighbours, when you have secured a few high-priced acres. The liberal terms offer-

ed by the Government of the various States, and the Commissioner of the Railway lands in America to intending settlers in the remoter districts, and the good-natured and kind welcome given to new-comers by the farmers, contrast most favourably with the reception to be met with in New Zealand, it is stated by those persons who have left it, and gone nearer home to that wide land. In New South Wales, in Western Australia where there is at least plenty of room, and in Queensland, the land regulations are framed with the view of enabling a man with very small means to make a commencement, and afford especial facilities for those persons with a limited capital—a thousand pounds or so—to begin sheep-farming with some chance of success, especially if he has a large family, for each of whom he can take up a portion of land on deferred payments for ten years with grazing commonage rights attached. Free selection the system is termed. In these countries there is no Fern, and grass has not to be sown. More men's hearts have been broken, that is of the poor gentlemen class, and their prospects ruined by Fern in New Zealand I believe, than by any plant man has tried to contend with.

To the following classes New Zealand may be safely recommended however. To the sober industrious artizan or farm labourer it is indeed a paradise, wages are very high, and provisions plentiful and cheap. In a very short time any steady labourer may become a landholder, and a hundred acres will maintain in most districts an industrious family in competence. Few of the original working settlers about New Plymouth had more than fifty acres, and on these small farms in that fertile region they have lived in comfort, educated their sons and started them well in the world in many cases. To the practical farmer who can plough his own fields, and whose wife and daughters can do all the domestic work if he has a capital of a few hundred pounds to begin with, few countries offer such advantages, the more boys he has to help him the better. There are considerable inducements also for the large capitalist, whether he desires to invest in landed property, which may still be purchased in situations where it must largely increase in value and who requiring no immediate return, is not under the necessity of employing high-priced labour but can afford to purchase estates for the benefit of his children ; or merely seeks safe securities for money with high interest. For retired Indian Officers who have long ago broken their home ties, who have pensions and a capital of some two thousand pounds saved, it is a good country to

settle in, the New Zealand winds renovate constitutions impaired by long residence in hot climates in a marvellous manner. The provinces of Canterbury and Otago and the breezy plains around Mount Egmont, are especially to be recommended to such. The latter district as a whole is the only one in the islands to which the word, charming, can be applied so far as scenery is concerned, you cannot get into any situation almost in the Province without some attraction, and it has other very considerable advantages looking to the future. No one as Mr. Swainson, a former Attorney General, observes (whose work upon the colony out of the hundred or so published is to be recommended generally as containing the most reliable information) "can speak of the soil and scenery of New Zealand till he has seen the natural beauties and ripening harvests of Taranaki." As previously noticed native difficulties have hitherto interfered with the progress of this Province, the land is nominally confiscated but remains in the possession of the Hau-Hau natives for the most part, many of the choicest farms in the settled portion close to the town are leased from aboriginal landlords of friendly tribes, who are very easy ones, and often wanting advances from their tenants in the end generally are foolish and improvident enough to lose the fee-simple. It has had to contend also with the adverse action, or at all events the gross neglect of its interests by the General Government, none of whose members held any direct interest in its progress, as they did in that of the much-favoured Province of Hawke Bay. But to persons who have a moderate income to live upon meantime, and can therefore afford to wait, the rich lands along the West Coast when opened for sale must prove a desirable investment. In days to come the slopes of Mount Egmont will be adorned with the villas and mansions of rich merchants and settlers from other parts of the Colony, attracted by the scenery, and by the salubrity of the climate, and travellers coming from the Australian Colonies for change as they do already to New Zealand, especially those from the burning plains of Queensland, passing through this inviting region by the Railway from Wellington to Auckland, which will be a most interesting trip by and by, may be induced to think of making homes in so beautiful a country, within a week's steaming of their own, where their children will grow up vigorous and healthy, and where they themselves will be able with ease to avail themselves of the life-giving waters of Rotoroa and Orakei-Korako.

The chief value of the Western Coast of the North island is in

its being peculiarly adapted for rearing fine sheep of long-woolled breeds, cattle and horses. It is eminently a pastoral and dairy country, as a grain-producing one it is inferior to Canterbury and the Delta of the Waikato, but from the sheltered vales a little inland, the farmers might compete with the Tasmanians in supplying the neighbouring colonies with hops. Its chief drawback is that in consequence of the lightness of the soil, the roots of the ferns penetrate deep, and it is more than usually expensive and troublesome to eradicate. In many places also gorse is a very formidable enemy to the farmer, but although its carrying capabilities when the country is cleared are not equal to those of the low lying plains of Turanganui and Ahuriri, (Poverty and Hawke Bay districts of the colonist), sheep more particularly, but all stock will be found much healthier, and less liable to epidemics on the West than the East Coast—it will also, which is a matter of greater consequence, support a much larger population than any other part of New Zealand.

To young men who cannot plough or dig and who do not care to depend upon manual labour for their living, who possess only the advantage of having received a liberal education of no use in such a country, who have no possessions, or have spent their early years in the Army and Navy, and have no income to maintain them until some opportunity of getting employment occurs, my advice is, do not think of coming to New Zealand; the colonial military service is not easy even to enter.

It is a very melancholy thing to see men who might have been useful to others as well as themselves elsewhere, possessing acquirements which would have rendered them ornamental even in society, and who might have done good service to their country in the professions they have abandoned, reduced by pressure of want to being cooks or grooms at roadside inns; and such instances are by no means rare. There is no sympathy for poor gentlemen at the Antipodes, there being so few of their own class in the islands, and the influences are wanting that might have guarded those in such an unhappy positions who are not strong-minded enough to resist the temptations of falling into bad habits. The man who would at home have possibly been brushing his father's butler's boots, will take pleasure in saying to the poor unfortunate, who landing without money, and lacking energy or steadiness, has gone down and down, "here you Bill make haste and cook a chop for this gentleman's dinner," I heard of the very words being addressed to a poor fellow

who was heir to a hereditary title, and was cook at a wayside hostelry.

Looking at the manner in which New Zealand is fast drifting into all we most dislike in American customs and habits, to the probability, indeed the certainty, of its inhabitants being soon the most heavily taxed community under the British flag, and at the same time under the most galling of all tyranny, that of low born uneducated representatives of the mob (in America they do chose the foremost and most talented men as Senators) to the few advantages present or prospective there are to compensate an educated man of limited means for the roughness, utter seclusion and want of interest or amusement in up-country life, I think that young men possessing energy and a capital of a thousand pounds or two, would also do better to go to any almost of the other British colonies or to the western States of America, as well as persons with families, and similar means. Two thousand pounds is not sufficient to begin very hopefully with in this much over-rated country, where unimproved land costs two to three pounds an acre, and wages are commonly so high. The Government lands are in most of the provinces put up to auction for cash. In Canterbury selection without auction is permitted, the minimum price being two pounds an acre, cash; but the desirable lands have all been bought up, and those remaining are either shingly plains or poor mountain slopes capable of maintaining one merino sheep to every three acres. There is no system of deferred payment which, as beforementioned, is a matter of such paramount importance, to the small capitalist, and enables such persons to make a fair start in America and in Australia. Agriculture does not pay at all if a small farmer has to employ labour, and to commence stock-farming requires either a much larger capital than £2,000 or a great risk to be run if a squatting station is purchased on credit. Prices have gone up far too high to leave any margin for profit, if wool should decline in price; and the runs being now fully stocked, nothing can be looked forward to by occupying new country with the increase.

Life at an out-station on the plains of Canterbury, Otago, Hawke Bay, or any of the open countries suitable for merino sheep-farming is most monotonous and dreary. There is an absolutely utter want of animal life. No sound of birds is to be heard as in the lightly-timbered open savannahs of Australia. Nothing is to be seen stirring in these uninteresting regions but a little lark

which makes a pitiful attempt to rise with a song, and suddenly drops after ascending a few yards, seemingly thoroughly ashamed of its feeble twittering, and a few small lizards now and then darting from stone to stone.

A book has lately been published—Buller's Birds of New Zealand, which is most creditable to the artist, the printer, and book-binder, and will well repay the Government for any expense incurred in its production, as an advertisement of the colony, whilst the compiler is rewarded by having the inevitable C. M. G. added to the string of capital letters he attaches to his name, his desire to secure the whole alphabet in that manner being so insatiable that he besieges each successive minister, in a manner that might excite commiseration to grant him the New Zealand war medal, because he once saw some armed Maoris. Persons of an imaginative temperament who come out to the beautiful romantic colony, the paradisaical land, as it is called by the facetious writer who contributed a review on this work to the *Spectator*, and who having read that amusing production, have pictured to themselves their future "home on some sweep of rich flax-bearing country, or stretch of undulating ferny downs, with golden-backed *Aphanapterixes* hopping about, and other fairest and brightest of creatures around them," will there listen in vain for "the famous campanile with its silver tone ringing out the *Angelus* in its stillness, and all the plumed choristers robed in many colors taking up the strain of the morning concert," which he informs us rejoices the heart of the New Zealand settler. Had these sentences been written with reference to Australia, (where ignoring the description of its multitude of feathered inhabitants published in Mr. Gould's great work, he asserts there is silence in the forest), it would have been somewhat a more reasonable picture of delights utterly unknown in New Zealand. At the edges of the forests the tui-tui's, and two other small birds of very homely plumage are pleasant to listen to, but generally there is absolute, most oppressive silence. It is not to be wondered at, that so many of the shepherds become insane, especially amongst the dreary mountains and on the bleak plains of Otago, where the summer sun pours down its fierce rays and all is dust and glare, no tree affording a blissful shade, to shield their heads; and when the howling gales in winter sweep the snowdrifts high around the solitary hut, and the ice is two feet thick upon the lagoons, the wretched lonely boundary rider, who may once perhaps have sat at some merry mess-table surrounded

by his brother officers, or amongst pleasant companions at Oxford or Cambridge, has not even the companionship of a bright fire to cheer him in the long nights, but sits with his dog cowering over a small stove heated with a little lignite brought from far, or a few prickly thorns gathered in summer, and laid up for winter use. The shrub which affords this poor supply of fuel in these regions is called "wild Irishman" by the settlers, and with a still more wicked enemy to the pedestrian known as "wild Spaniard" or spear grass, renders walking in the up-country of the middle island anything but pleasant.

In some localities there is fair duck-shooting, but at present the sportsman will find little use for his gun, except in the neighbourhood of Auckland and in the Waikato where there is really good pheasant-shooting; the birds are a cross betwixt the Chinese and English, or more generally the China breed unmixed, and afford excellent sport with good dogs, for those who can walk through tall fern, and shoot quick. Bye and bye there will be greater attractions in this respect, as deer of various kinds have been introduced, and having no enemies to contend against, increase quickly. The wild dogs and pigs, both descended from those brought by the Europeans have plenty of the settlers' lambs in spring time, without troubling the fawns. These pigs were in immense numbers formerly, and are still very numerous in places. The middle island was quite over-run with them. One settler gave a party of professional pig-stickers a contract for ten thousand pig-tails at nine-pence each and then another for six thousand, without quite exterminating them on his run. Where they are not in such great numbers, in some remote mountain gorge, now and then an old grisly boar may be met with, worthy even of an Indian pig-stickers' spear, but generally there is not much sport in hunting them, and they may be knocked over by shying stones, successfully attempted by the gallant lady Barker, as told in her account of "Station life in New Zealand." The dogs derived from all sorts of progenitors, hunt in small packs and would very soon become a formidable pest, but strychnine is fast thinning their numbers. Rabbits have become as great a nuisance as in some districts of Victoria and Tasmania, hares and partridges have also been introduced, perhaps the former may as they have done in Victoria, in consideration of the wide plains they have to people, think it judicious to have four or five leverets at once, and to breed twice a year—but the wild cats the progeny also

of the domestic, which have spread into the remotest parts of the forests, are dangerous foes to the partridges, and are fast extirpating the indigenous wingless birds, and the unsophisticated small ones also, which having no hereditary instincts about cats, build their nests amongst the creeping ferns, and other climbing plants, which clothe the trunks of the trees, and are therefore much exposed to their ravages, as well as those of the rats, which being clever creatures, with shrewd ideas as to the fitness of things, are growing long claws, and becoming like squirrels in their habits. English singing birds, knowing all about cats and weasels, are able to take better care of themselves, and their young, and will soon supply the want of native ones; already around Nelson and Taranaki, &c., the mornings are joyous with the cheering song of multitudes of skylarks. Trout too, pakeha fish, as the Maoris call them are multiplying rapidly in the streams, but having at present such an abundance of food grow to an immense size, and are too lazy to rise to artificial flies, indeed they know little about flies at all, these being very few which skim the surface of New Zealand waters, so may lose the habit altogether, and the angler will tempt them in vain. This want is probably the reason of its being the only country in the world without swallows, so numerous in Australia and the South Sea Islands, and its vast swamps have not tempted snipe to come as well as the cuckoo.

With respect to the natural wonders, which I have said Mr. Darwin even would have thought it worth while coming far to see, they are only to be visited by those who can afford time and expense in doing so, and who do not mind roughing it. Distances in the country with the present facilities for travelling in the interior will be found long; the public conveyances, coaches and steamers and the inns, hotels they are universally called, are infested too to an unaccountable extent by a most disagreeable class of commercial travellers of low caste, German Jew pedlars and the like, offensive in their manners and conversation to the last degree, who make the use of such modes of travelling very unpleasant, especially for ladies. The best way, as many persons would not care to ride alone through unknown regions, and by unfrequented paths, is to form a party, taking tents and pack horses, and in summer people may ride thus through the island from Wellington to the far north visiting all the scenes of interest most pleasurably.

New Zealanders for the most part known very little of the

country they live in. The sheep farmers of Canterbury and Otago are as ignorant of the wonders of Roto-mahana and Taupo as the hinds of the Lothians are of the beauties of the Trossachs, and those who have made money in the prosaic plain countries of these provinces of the south, and have returned to England, speak of New Zealand, a country they know nothing of, as Mr. Swainson says, especially of New Zealand proper—they have never seen it. Its peculiarity is, that although sombre and uninviting as Mr. Darwin and others have thought it justly enough from its general appearance, the scenery is exceedingly diversified, and it is curious to find in this comparatively small country, so many wonderful and rare objects of attraction; so much so that there are few things in foreign lands that would take a native-born New Zealand colonist by surprise, who had travelled over his own, unless it were finding himself amongst people of polished and courteous manners, such as the Japanese, whom he would of course have placed in the category of niggers. It presents an epitome physically and socially of a large portion of the globe.

It has its long chain of the Southern Alps, with peaks but a few feet only lower than the summit of Mount Blanc, with perhaps more extensive névés and glaciers. That named the Tasman coming down from Mount Cook exceeds in its dimensions the Mer-de-Glace or the Bosson; from a cave of dark blue-green ice at its extremity issues the river of the same name, one of the chief branches of the Waitangi, bursting up in a grand fountain visible from a considerable distance, as the Cashmere head of the Indus does.

It has its beautiful Kaikouras more striking as seen from the Pacific on a calm winter morning, when the sun flushes with rosy tents their sharp snowy peaks, than the Sierra Nevada under similar circumstances from the deck of a Mediterranean steamer.

The ruddy Kaimanawas replace the Sierra Morena, and the Whanganvi's pumice loaded waters, the Guadalquivir.

A photograph of Taranaki mountain much resembles one of the "Matchless Fusiuma of Japan; it has its volcanos now quiescent with their plains of lavas, scorice, and ashes beneath, and its active one of Tongoriro, its geysers like Iceland, its great solfatara of Whakári in the Bay of Plenty. The country near Auckland studded with crater-cones presents a panorama very similar to the bird's-eye view of the Puy-de-dome, and surrounding cones in Auvergne.

It has its terraces formed by the deposits from thermal waters, if not so extensive as those of the wondrous region of the Yellowstone river, perhaps more beautiful in coloring and the marvellous delicacy of their tracery; its deep fiords grand as those of Norway; its parallel roads more extended than those of Glen Roy; its submerged forests; its stony plains covered with coarse yellow grass sloping down imperceptibly to the eye, nevertheless rapidly, from the eastern side of the Cordillera, intersected by great turbid torrents, running in many channels amongst islands of bare shingle, like those of eastern Patagonia, and as in that country too, the western sides of the high mountains are clothed with dense dark forests traversed by rivers of blue ice descending in both lands nearly to the sea. Although brilliant humming birds flashing in the sun, do not bring recollections of the Torrid Zone, as they do flitting about amongst the snow flakes in the Straits of Magellan, the graceful fronds of the tree ferns, lend a sort of tropical beauty to the scene as they droop over the edges of the cliffs by the New Zealand glaciers.

Far rolling plains and rising downs of ever unvarying yellow hue, but without the bison and antelopes, lone and dismal as they are under a leaden grey sky, recall those great pasturages of Nevada, and eastern Colorado, when they have been long scorched by the fierce summer sun, and their spring greenness and flowers are gone. The barren pumice stone plains that occupy great part of the centre of the North island are as forbidding as the alkali deserts of America; portions of them up near Rua-pahu are absolutely stony wildernesses; it has its rich tree fern gullies like Tasmania and Southern Australia; its forests of grand kauri trees, less gloomy and dark than the pine ones of the Columbia river in Oregon; its many Pontine marshes with their booming bitterns, and without their insalubrity; its beautiful running streams that ought, and some day will be full of trout like those of the Colorado parks or the Scottish moors; its gold-digging regions with their torn down mountains, flumes and water-races, and villages, (cities with mayors and corporations), but consisting of the usual streets of shanties built of all sorts of odds and ends, and roofed with corrugated iron, more dreary and forlorn-looking than most in California or Australia, and the same wild gaunt-looking men in red shirts and high boots, standing picturesquely on the points of the cliffs, rest on their pick-axes and watch you as you pass by; its wild mountain gorges, where

you may chance to see as I did, a long string of Chinamen with bleeding and frost-bitten feet dressed in their usual costumes and bending under bamboos with their worldly goods slung at either end coming down a precipitous slope, just as they would in some defile of the Kuen-luen or Tian-shan, boldly having pushed their way over unknown mountains, and across never-before-trodden glaciers to go from one gold field to another.

The hills bordering the river valleys may not be crowned with the romantic ruins of the castles of wild robber barons, who were wont to 'compel all men to their will,' but every eminence in many parts of the north island presents memorials of troubled times, in the scarped terraces, and other remains of the fortified Pahs of chieftains who were at all events fathers to, and protectors of their own people, if terrors to their enemies. The gorge of the Manawatu is wild and beautiful as that of the Rhine and its *via mala* is certainly more dangerous.

The lakes in the south are as large as those of Switzerland, and are as weird in their aspect as the latter may perhaps have been, when the stone-axe-using men built their dwellings by their banks, and their waves are tossed by far fiercer gales (sweeping down from the desolate-looking mountains, so remarkable for their excessive rugged barrenness) than those which disturb the waters below Fluellen, or the wider expanses of Geneva and Constance. In the North Waikare-Moana possesses the softer beauties of Windermere and from blue Te-Moana "the sea" of Taupo, flows the Waikato swift as the arrowy Rhone.

New Zealand has its battle-fields of yesterday, and its neglected graveyards where lie the remains of British soldiers uncared for, as in the Crimea and elsewhere; its villages in the unsettled portions of the north, where the houses are cloistered round a redoubt, or wooden block-house as in the Western States, where you hear the bugle calls, and the challenge of the sentinels, if you pass in by night; from others in the South you listen to the Church bells ringing in the quiet valleys, where they lie snug surrounded with green fields enclosed by hawthorn hedges, redolent of the may and honeysuckles as in England, only newer of aspect, and wanting the picturesqueness of gables, and the charm of antiquity. On the plains beyond, although you will not see twenty or forty thousand acres of wheat in one vast continuous sea, as in California, you may see five hundred or a thousand acre fields, rippling in undulating waves of

gold under the autumnal breeze, or not unfrequently being tossed and parched up under the fierce sirocco-like winds that in a few hours ruin the hopes of the farmer as in South Australia, and other countries. It has its iron mines and coal mines, which at a future day, will render some districts as displeasing to the eye of the lover of nature, and greenness as parts of Northumberland and Durham ; its petroleum and oil springs, although but on a small scale, like Ohio ; its rivers being spanned by iron bridges, one after another, with railway trains passing over them ; its harbours with puffing steamers and tug-boats ; its six and eight-in-hand coaches, and prodigies of coachmen as America.

You may there study the simplicities of the stone epoch as well as the eccentricities and duplicities of that of iron roads and telegraphs. Within a short distance as the crow flies (but remote in consequence of the impassable forests and broken country which intervenes) of towns with their gas-works, foundaries, cloth factories, breweries, theatres and banks, there are villages, as in the Urewera country, where the old men still living were in their prime when the pristine stone tools and weapons were alone in use throughout the island ; where yet the gifts of the white man are all but unknown ; where the children run in terror and hide themselves from the evil-eyed Pakeha, as in Central Africa, or as the denizens of the towns on the South American Coast were wont to do, at the cry of *Los Ingleses*. You put off to-day from some retired bay in a canoe manned by stalwart paddlers, such as have been paddled for untold ages in the Pacific, by people of this most ancient race, and being put on board a passing steamer, leave the shore where you have witnessed a war-dance wild and earth-shaking as may have been danced under the oaks of England, where the Baal-fires still blazed on her hills ; seen girls performing a haka, arrayed artlessly in nearly the exact costume first adopted by Eve and her daughters, and so much admired now in London theatres. To-morrow you will be where people are "presenting compliments," and "having the honor," where instead of going to see their friends, receive their haere-mai's, and rub noses, they wait until they think their acquaintances will be from home, and leave bits of paper at their doors. You find yourself the very next evening after having been entertained with genuine hospitality by the unsophisticated children of nature, wretchedly pinioned at a dinner table where you meet all the horrid Tadpoles and Tapers of little Lilliput, after-

wards you may smoke your cigar at their "Bellamy's" and read the evening papers, with news of what happened last week in London or Hakodadi, or may be cruelly stuck up against a wall, with the elders of the place, who stand there for hours watching the gyrations of their daughters or perhaps wives, a little more draped than the Maori girls, not dancing decorously however by themselves as they did last night, but being whirled round and round furiously, close embraced by men whom their guardians never saw before, whose names they have never heard, and who would probably cut them on the street to-morrow, should they chance to make their acquaintance, but who nevertheless are content to see them resting their heads lovingly upon their supporter's shoulders as they go through motions more violent if not so graceful as those of the Maoris, and the thought comes which is the most civilized, and least eccentric performance, there can be no question as to which is the most agreeable spectacle.

New Zealand has its Lords and Commons, its speeches from the throne, its openings and prorogations of Parliament—its many Bishops Catholic and Protestant, and numerous Archdeacons, and the long-laid foundations at least of its Canterbury Cathedral—its Judges and swarms of be-wigged attornies, the two branches of the profession being amalgamated, with their ca-sa's and fi-fa's, and all the uselessly expensive machinery of legal chicanery in full swing—its colleges and chancellors and professors conferring M. A. and B. A. degrees with utmost severity and gravity upon the foremost of the very limited number of alumni who enter their precincts—its valuable museums and scientific combatants, good haters as elsewhere—it had its great birds like Madagascar and it may be as some say, has them still—its race-courses with their betting rings, their aunt sallys and thimble riggers. I believe it possesses a punch and judy—its regattas;—at Auckland they are pretty—its innumerable masonic and templar's lodges. It has had its war with the brown men as America with the Red;* also its band of thugs under the monster Sullivan carrying on in the portion of Canterbury, now called Westland, the most systema-

* It seems possible that young as it is the colony may distinguish itself as that great country has done, by having its internicine war also of the south against the north, since it appears by late papers, that money difficulties, "that teterrima causa of all belli" are rising up betwixt the two islands, and the southern one, through its spokesman a warlike Indian Knight, declares it will pursue the course indicated "to the bitter end," if the paupers of the northern attempt to touch its Land Revenue.

tic practice of killing, and burying, sometimes before they were dead, all whom they met, but they are all hanged except the arch-demon their leader, whom Sir James Fergusson let lose on condition of his taking himself off to America, or England. But neither country would have him, so he is gone back again it is reported, but this need not weigh upon the minds of people desiring to go to New Zealand, whatever disadvantages and drawbacks the country possesses, it is at all events one of the quietest and safest to live in; burglars and professional thieves are being industriously imported certainly from England, and may force people presently to think of getting bolts and locks to their doors, in the neighbourhood of the towns at all events, a matter hitherto not much attended to. Up-country the settlers even in the immediate neighbourhood of large Maori Pahs never dream of such a precaution, although it has its discharged convicts as well as the Australias.

Against these colonies, especially that pretty and most comfortable island Tasmania, many people have a prejudice on this account, not consulting statistics, and being unaware that in proportion to the population now, there are fewer of this class in them, than in the Mother Country. The objection too affects New Zealand more now-a-days than even Tasmania where those remaining are for the most part decrepid old men and women, the others all left it, being permitted to do so, on condition of not coming back. So great was the influx of expirees to the Southern Provinces, that the Superintendent of Otago, as may be seen by reference to the Colonial Blue Books of 1860, "emphatically called upon his Excellency's advisers to strain every nerve to prevent the country becoming a vast Penal Settlement, and the Province of Otago the converging point of the convict element of the Australian colonies." But considering the number who reached its shores, (it being impossible to stem the tide of emigrants of that class, after gold was discovered) and the comparative absence of crime, it shows how much want and poverty have to do with swelling the calendar. New Zealand was a land where living was easy, employment at good wages being plentiful, and there was little incentive to transgress the laws—the Japanese in legislating to prevent poverty, have far surpassed us in the first object of civilization, if that is to secure the greatest amount of happiness to the greatest number.

Its numerous Emigration agents are writing up New Zealand,

as the Pearl of greatest beauty and value in the diadem of England, returned Governors who have purchased land or have shares in money-lending companies there, give glowing descriptions in after-dinner speeches, the leading newspapers are seized with the contagion, and in lengthy articles indulge in rhapsodies about the "Wonder-land of the Antipodes," the southern paradise—our romantic colony, and other epithets so seductive to those whose eyes are looking across the seas for a new home. One hears about the energetic, and noble pioneers of the Britain of the South, who are returning bringing their sheaves with them. What is it that has shed this halo of romance over it? is it the memory of the war prosecuted with such a loss of prestige, and such a waste of money, against the unfortunate aborigines? Their ancestors' brave defence of their country may well do so to the latest Maoris, who in times to come read the story of their heroic deeds. Is it the mantle of Vogelism, or universal political corruption and Koomposh that envelopes it? Who are the noblest of England's sons, who are reaping "the well-earned rewards of their energy and courage," that the *Times* has heard of? Are they the adventurous bank directors who have played successfully with the funds in their charge? the money-lending huckstering storekeepers, *alias* merchants? The speculators in town allotments? the Sydney Jews who changed into gold the muskets and ammunition with which they supplied the natives to fight their countrymen with from their stores in Auckland—the unscrupulous army contractors—the Caledonian Mine Ring—the men who got large territories for a Puggaree? one can understand these people's sudden fortunes exciting the admiration of the poetic spirits of Lombard Street, and inducing them to hazard their millions. But amongst the fortunate New Zealanders, you will seek almost in vain for any of those who bore the burthen and heat of the day, and fought for the homes they had made, when the proceedings of the Government involved them in war. The greater number of the men who struggled against the early difficulties and hardships in the northern island—New Zealand proper—will be found struggling with the many difficulties and hardships—the fern—the caterpillars and grasshoppers still.

It is a most matter-of-fact country generally. The "Silent people" never could have danced amidst the high rank fern jungle, or under the shade of the dark impenetrable forests.

Although there are sights worth coming far to see, they are generally weird and strange in their aspect, not romantic;—People cannot have farms near Roto-mahana, or on the pumice stone terraces of Taupo, or build villas in the wild inaccessible fiords of the west coast.

Notwithstanding that there may be chances of success for those mentioned, persons who take the trouble to read these discursive notes will conclude that if health or economy make it desirable to leave England, it is scarce desirable to go to live in an Antipodean town, where everything is a very disenchanting repetition of what they have left, with all the tiresome conventionalities and few or none of the graces—where all the chief annoyances and discomforts people with limited incomes are exposed to at home are intensified, and where except in uninhabited and uninhabitable places, the charm of sights and sounds, new and pleasing, are utterly wanting—where men for the most part in the constant struggle for something great to retire upon, leave themselves nothing to retire to, having led lives in which, literature science and the arts have all been forgotten and neglected for years. There are many places near home where living is much cheaper, where mere existence is as delightful as it can be for human beings, even for those whose means are very limited, ‘where all save the spirit of man is divine.’ If distance lends enchantment to the view, the interior of Java is a paradise. Cashmere is now open, in either place life need not be wasted in idleness. The slopes of the Lebanon are preferable to those of the New Zealand Alps, and to many temperaments the change from wheel-going Europe to the splendour havoc of the east” has, as Mr. Kinglake says, an indefinable charm, there they find Rest.

One word more in conclusion to young gentlemen of a romantic disposition who may think of crossing the Ocean, and from the Woolshed on the plain going up the Wai-Makeriri river and over the great Range, dreaming they may there see the lovely damozells who suggested the superlatives Houris of EREHWON—they will do nothing of the kind. After travelling in a Cobb’s coach and six horses, wonderfully handled by an American Jehu, seated beside Chinamen and German Jew pedlars, having matter-of-fact telegraph poles, and wire fences always in view, as they cross the treeless brown plains smothered with dust, although they will pass through the Otira Gorge, one of the most romantic passes certainly traversed

by a mail coach which might well indeed serve as the gate to a Terrestrial Paradise, they will arrive at the gold-diggers' town of Hokitika on the Western Sea,—they will there find only dressed-up bar-maids from Melbourne with little curls gummed across their foreheads, serving out poisonous decoctions to half stupified diggers. Well might CHOWBOK shudder at the recollection of the people beyond THE RANGE.

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